# UNORTHODOX

Written by

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Based on the book

Unorthodox - An Exorcism Story by Judah Ray

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## OVER BLACK

TITLE CARD: "Inspired by true events."

FADE IN:

EXT. FARMHOUSE - DAY

In the Great Plains, where no nearby structures or signs of human existence are found, a simple one-story, two-bedroom house stands in complete isolation.

The overgrown yard features a majestic tree, its large trunk positioned a good distance from the spacious porch. A lengthy driveway leads from the house to the dirt road.

An unseen person stalks the house, their hand, adorned with a skull and crossbones ring, embellished with ruby eyes, rests on the tree's trunk.

MADISON (early teens), a street-savvy firecracker, with an unconventional style, emerges from the front door, retrieves a small package from the porch, and scans the surroundings.

The yard appears empty.

Madison returns to the front door.

The unseen person peeks out from behind the tree and watches Madison walk back into the house.

INT. FARMHOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

A black kettle softly HISSES on the stove, while a stirring stick lies inside one of the two empty paper cups on the nearby counter.

Madison carefully examines the small package addressed specifically to her, but it doesn't have a return address. With caution, she tears it open.

Inside, lies an ounce of marijuana accompanied by a smaller baggy, filled with ten pills.

She swiftly pockets the marijuana, selects two pills from the baggy, and stashes the remainder in her pocket. She grabs a matchbook from the stovetop and detaches its cover.

MADISON (shouts) As if I had any control over it. She folds the matchbook cover over the two pills and firmly bites into it.

FAITH (O.S.) (from another room) None of us do.

KETTLE WHISTLE BLOWS

FAITH (early-30s), a gorgeous woman marked by the weight of hardships, enters.

FAITH (CONT'D) God's will be done.

Madison clutches the matchbook cover tightly, as Faith walks towards her.

MADISON Grab some ice.

## FAITH

Please.

MADISON Please grab *us* some ice.

Faith opens a cupboard a brings out a bowl.

Madison's fingers nervously fumble as she struggles to gently open the matchbook cover.

Faith walks over to the refrigerator and opens the freezer.

Madison manages to gently pry the matchbook cover open, as Faith places ice into the bowl.

MADISON (CONT'D) So... what you're saying is... making tea isn't my decision? It's all part of God's plan.

Powder cascades from the matchbook cover, and descends past the stirring stick before it settles into the cup.

Faith closes the refrigerator and walks towards her.

FAITH You know it doesn't work like that.

Madison swiftly tucks the matchbook cover into her pocket and regains her composure.

FAITH (CONT'D) Please, don't make mine hot. MADISON (scoffs) That's what the ice is for.

Faith is about to inspect the cups. Madison blocks her view.

MADISON (CONT'D) Grab the sugar.

FAITH Yes, ma'am. Guess he forgot to keep you up on your P's and Q's.

Faith heads towards the cupboard.

MADISON

Pleeease.

Madison stirs the tea with the stirring stick and blends the powder into the liquid.

As Madison moves to pour tea into the next cup but Faith grabs the kettle handle.

FAITH I'll handle this.

Madison glances at the cups.

A little powder floats on the tea's surface.

Intentionally, Madison tugs the kettle, which causes hot water to splash out.

Faith sidesteps and looks down to the puddle, as Madison quickly grabs the stick and stirs the cup.

FAITH (CONT'D) Really, Maddy?

Faith glares at Madison.

FAITH (CONT'D) Know your place.

Madison raises her hands in surrender.

MADISON

Thank you.

Madison walks away.

FAITH See. That wasn't so hard. An assortment of items that seems to have been collected from garage sales or stumbled upon along the roadside. A unique blend of Americana and religious decor. The furniture has been floated away from the wall.

Madison is seated on the couch, her eyes locked on the kitchen doorway, as Faith enters with a tray in her hands.

## MADISON It's so boring out here. I miss the city, my friends... I miss Dad.

Faith places the tray, which holds two paper cups, each with a stirring stick, and a plate of biscuits, onto the table.

Madison stares at the cups.

#### FAITH

In the Bible, there are one hundred and seventy women mentioned, but Jesus specifically instructs us to remember just one during the end of days; Lot's wife. All we know about her is that she looked back and turned into a pillar of salt. She was trapped in a place she was merely meant to pass through.

## MADISON

So, are you saying I'm salty, or just passing through here?

#### FAITH

At this stage in life, both. Living in the city may seem amazing, and the people who live there exciting, but as you grow older, you realize it's not exactly the good life you thought it'd be. And the people, the people aren't who you think they are.

Faith hands a cup to Madison.

MADISON Is this how it's going to be? You going to constantly whine about how my Dad sucks?

Faith takes a seat.

FAITH You know I love you, right Maddy? Madison's gaze is fixed on the liquid within the cup as she stirs her drink.

#### MADISON

I know there's a chemical reaction that tricks your brain into feeling love. Drugs can give you the same effect. Ever heard of Molly?

#### FAITH

I'm not sure where you're getting your information about love, but it's much deeper than that. And relying on someone like Molly for advice may not be the best idea.

MADISON (scoffs) You're so clueless. There's so much you don't understand.

FAITH (mock scoff) Says a child. I know that drugs wear off, but true love never does. It never goes away.

MADISON Then why'd he send me to the middle of nowhere?

Madison fights back tears. Faith moves closer to her.

FAITH It's not a punishment, Madison. Your dad... he has his own issues to deal with.

Faith glances at the faint mark on her bare ring finger.

FAITH (CONT'D) It doesn't mean he doesn't love you. He just --

MADISON Never said he doesn't love me. But it's obvious, he doesn't love you.

Faith takes a moment to collect herself.

FAITH You're upset, and I understand that. Let's try to relax and enjoy our tea.

Madison grabs a biscuit and takes a bite, while Faith sips her tea.

FAITH (CONT'D) Wow, that's good. The sweet really compliments the bitter.

Faith takes a large gulp of tea.

MADISON I don't know anyone out here.

FAITH You know me.

MADISON

Do I? You've been "born again"... and as who?

Faith belts out a loud YAWN.

MADISON (CONT'D) Am I boring you?

FAITH Oh goodness... sorry. Look, Maddy... I just... I just want what's best for you.

Madison chokes on a biscuit. She swiftly lifts the cup to her lips and gulps down the tea. Abruptly, she stops, her eyes tremble as she stares at the tea in her cup.

FAITH (CONT'D) Are you okay?

Madison slowly places the cup back on the table.

MADISON Yeah... I'm... I'm fine. I'm fine.

FAITH You put the scare in me. Dear Lord.

MADISON Relax. No need to pray for me.

Madison's eyes begin to droop, heavy with fatigue.

FAITH (progressively echos) One day, you're going to realize I only want the best for you.

Madison struggles to keep her eyes open.

FAITH (CONT'D) (progressively echos) I'm going to pray you find... Maddy, are you all right? Madison collapses unconscious onto the floor.

FADE TO BLACK:

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

A small window above the toilet. The door is closed. A phone cord extends from under the door and stretches up to a handset in Madison's hand. She turns on the faucet.

Madison settles herself on the lid of the toilet and flips open a magazine. Her finger grazes over the word "ESCAPE" prominently displayed across an advertisement.

> FAITH (O.S.) How are you feeling?

Madison cracks the door open and peers out into her bedroom.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

A queen-sized bed faces a dresser adorned with stuffed animals. A jar of pens, a lamp, and a framed photograph, of a younger Madison positioned between a youthful Faith and RICHARD (late-20s), magnetic charm, sit atop a desk. Two unpacked moving boxes clutter the floor.

An entire wall is covered with a collage made up of cut-up magazine pages and boy band posters.

The dusty outline of a cross remains from its previous position above the slightly open bedroom door.

The room is unoccupied, but Faith's presence in the hallway obstructs the light that seeps in through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

A phone cord extends from the base of the telephone, stretches across the room, and runs underneath the partially opened bathroom door, which Madison peeks out from.

> MADISON Don't come in my room!

FAITH (O.S.) Are you feeling better?

MADISON Yeah, just washing up for bed.

FAITH (O.S.) Can I get you any -- ? Faith walks away and light seeps unobstructed through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

## INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

The phone cord extends from underneath the door, as Madison gently closes it. She turns her attention to the mirror and raises the handset to her ear.

MADISON Okay... what was I saying?

ERIK (V.O.)

Couches.

## MADISON

I mean, if you think about it, when you visit someone, and sit on their couch, you know they've had sex on it. People don't clean their couches on the reg. So, you're like, sitting in a blend of sweat and cum. It just weirds me out.

INT. ERIK'S BEDROOM - DAY

An active drug lab HUMS on a desk. Taxidermy animals decorate the shelves. A large pile of white powder rests on a coffee table in front of a couch.

ERIK (17), identifies as a man, plump physique, masks his innocence with a cringey "bro" facade, postal-worker shirt, sits on the couch, a tray table positioned on his lap.

On the tray table, a motionless rabbit lies in a stainless steel pan.

Erik's hand, adorned with the ruby-eyed skull and crossbones ring, grips a scalpel. He cuts into the rabbit's belly, which he then pries open to reveal the internal organs within.

> ERIK Girl, ya should be here with me.

Erik pokes around the rabbit's organs with intrigue. He then removes the intestines from the body and sets them aside.

MADISON (V.O.) I'll just grab my cape and fly right over. Erik stabs the scalpel into the rabbit and leaves it there.

ERIK Aight then, I'll come to you.

JENNI (mid-teens), adorable, with big green eyes and a sweet disposition, approaches the table. She brings out an underage identification and uses it to chop up the powder.

MADISON (V.O.) Yeah, right. Stranger danger.

ERIK Come on, ya know me.

MADISON (V.O.) I know your profile and who you claim to be. How do I know I can trust you?

Erik's face contorts with anger. He regains his composure.

ERIK I'm just a good boy, tryin' to make his mama proud.

MADISON (V.O.) Sure, guy. Look at your lifestyle.

ERIK Bet. I'm a self-made man. Always told Ma I'd be successful. LOOK MA I'M A CHEMIST!

ERIK'S MOM (V.O.) (from the next room over) Look at what? You need something?

ERIK (shouts) Nah, Ma!

MADISON (V.O.) You're so crazy.

ERIK I'll look the Devil in the eyes, and flip him off.

Jenni snorts a line of powder, then sniffs. Her eyes roll back, and drool oozes down her chin.

ERIK (CONT'D) Ya gotta be kiddin' me!

Erik pushes the tray table aside. He stands up and looms over Jenni as she convulses on the floor.

Madison looks in the mirror and pulls down on the skin under her eyes, then releases them with a SIGH.

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ERIK (V.O.)
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Damn it!

MADISON Something wrong?

ERIK (V.O.) I'm surrounded by idiots. (away from the receiver) Ya shoulda listened to me.

MADISON Listened about what?

ERIK (V.O.) (away from the receiver) So hell-bent on havin' a good time that you ended up dead.

MADISON You're scaring me.

Erik kneels next to Jenni and checks her pulse.

## ERIK My, um... my dog, she... she got into some chocolate.

Erik glares at Jenni.

Bad dog!

ERIK (CONT'D)

MADISON (V.O.) Did she eat a lot?

Erik stands and looks down at Jenni.

ERIK Yeah... quite a bit, but I, uh, think she's gonna be okay... (sighs) I'm losing it. I can't take much more. I'm gonna snap. I need to get away from all this craziness.

MADISON (V.O.) Oh, yeah? What do you have in mind? ERIK Girl, I'm an angel. Let me come swoop ya up, and take ya to heaven.

Disconnected from reality, Madison gazes into the mirror as she absentmindedly traces the dark circles under her eyes.

ERIK (V.O.) Are ya there!?

Madison snaps back to reality.

MADISON Sorry, I zoned out. I'm still groggy from that dose I drank.

Erik stares at Jenni, as she twitches and foams at the mouth.

ERIK Imagine if you had used enough to kill her?

MADISON (V.O.) Kill her!? She's always around. I, I only wanted her to fall asleep. I only wanted to run away.

Jenni's eyes widen before she passes away.

ERIK

Ya say tomato, I say tomato.

Madison rolls her eyes. She flips over the toilet tank cover, which exposes a plastic bag attached to its underside.

MADISON Cute. I just can't with you, I'm too tired. If I don't get some real sleep soon, I'm gonna collapse.

ERIK (V.O.) I want you to collapse, right into my bed.

MADISON

Stop.

ERIK (V.O.)

Start.

MADISON

Come on!

ERIK (V.O.) That's what I'm sayin', girl. Cum on me! A faint CLICK is heard through the receiver.

Madison returns the phone to her ear.

MADISON You're nasty.

ERIK (V.O.) Ya like it.

Erik takes a seat next to Jenni's lifeless body.

ERIK Girl, ya definitely know what ya doin'. Got me all riled up.

END INTERCUT

The toilet tank cover rests in an upside-down position on the tank, while the open plastic bag occupies the sink. A stack of currency, a tube of lipstick, a scale, and the bag of marijuana sits on the counter.

MADISON Nothing I can't handle.

Madison applies the lipstick.

ERIK (V.O.) So, ya think you can handle this big, fat -- .

MADISON Okay, let's take it down a notch.

ERIK (V.O.)

Tease.

Madison looks in the mirror and puckers her lips.

MADISON I gotta get ready for school. So over it. I think I'm gonna drop out. Why the hell do I even --?

The phone cord quickly retracts, and the handset is ripped out of Madison's hand. It flops to the floor, and skips along until it bursts into pieces against the closed door.

Faith stands at the bedroom door and obstructs the light that seeps in through the gap beneath it.

SILENCE

Horrified, Madison stares at the door.

KNOCK KNOCK

Madison quickly throws everything back into the plastic bag and secures it to the tank lid.

MADISON (CONT'D) Just a second.

Madison quickly replaces the lid and drapes a towel over the travel magazine.

KNOCK KNOCK

Madison's eyes tremble as she stares at the door.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

MADISON (CONT'D) I'm almost read -- .

The HANDLE RATTLES as Faith attempts to enter.

KNOCK KNOCK

MADISON (CONT'D) One second while I -- .

The HANDLE RATTLES as Faith BANGS on the door, so hard the walls SHAKE.

MADISON (CONT'D) Let me wipe!

Madison hastily wipes off the lipstick and lowers her hand, just moments before the door is violently kicked open.

Faith stands at the threshold, and pulls the phone cord taut, as if poised to strangle someone.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Madison breaks free from Faith's grasp and collapses onto the bed. Faith rocks on her heels as she hovers over Madison.

FAITH Why is it so difficult for you to remember? Keep *all* the doors open, even if it's just a crack.

MADISON Seriously? All this drama over that? That's... that's crazy. FAITH Are you sleeping with that boy?

MADISON Eavesdropping. Not cool, Faith, not cool at all.

FAITH Well, I overheard -- .

MADISON I'm not sleeping with any boys.

FAITH Then why was he talking about how nasty you are?

Madison SNICKERS.

FAITH (CONT'D) The Lord told me pick up the phone, so I could intervene.

MADISON Yup. God knocked on your door, told you I was on the phone, and instructed you to listen in.

FAITH Your father may not have had rules, but things are different here. You're too young to be dating. And I won't allow it under my roof.

MADISON But I -- !

FAITH Don't 'but' me. Go on now, get ready for school... And I don't want to hear another word about this boy nonsense.

MADISON No boys. Got it.

As Faith walks away, she suddenly stops. She strides over to the desk and grabs the framed photograph.

Faith snaps the frame in half and throws it to the comforter. She looks from the broken frame to Madison, then quickly exits, but leaves the bedroom door slightly open.

Madison quickly retrieves a cell phone from under the bed and rushes to the bathroom.

### INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

Hot water runs from the faucet and fogs up the mirror.

Madison sits on the toilet and brings up a 'social messenger app' on her cell phone.

SUPER: A bubble pops up that displays a picture of Madison, accompanied by a text message that reads "OMG so sorry."

Madison's eyes alternate between her cell phone and the partially open bedroom door.

SUPER: Another bubble pops up that displays a picture of a petite TEEN, with surfer charm, accompanied by a text message that reads "yeah heard it all"

SUPER: Another bubble displays the picture of Madison, accompanied by a text message that reads "You did!?"

Madison absentmindedly picks at a scab on her leg.

SUPER: Another bubble displays the picture of the teen, accompanied by a text message that reads "shes strait up nutz i gotta hear ur voice call me NOW"

SUPER: Another bubble shows the picture of Madison, accompanied by a text message that reads "okay but I have to keep it on the DL."

The phone VIBRATES. Madison answers it.

MADISON I'm texting for a reason.

ERIK (V.O.) Yeah, and I'm callin' for a reason... that voice.

MADISON I knew using the landline was a mistake. I couldn't risk being caught on this phone.

ERIK (V.O.) And here we are.

MADISON Brat... Seriously, she's so extra. I should start an online channel. Show people how crazy she is.

ERIK (V.O.) That's a great idea! (beat) (MORE) ERIK (V.O.) (CONT'D) Sooo, when am I comin' to swoop ya up? I can make my way dow -- .

### MADISON

Ouch!

As Madison picks at the scab on her leg, blood seeps out.

ERIK (V.O.) Everything okay?

Madison holds toilet paper over the scab.

MADISON It depends on your definition of okay. I'm shook. She literally ripped the phone out of my hand, and it smashed against the -- .

SILENCE

Madison peeks out the door.

INT. HOUSE - MADISON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Faith's presence in the hallway obstructs the light that seeps in through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

ERIK (V.O.)

Mad?

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

Madison stares out the door.

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ERIK (V.O.)
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Hello?!

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

Faith walks towards her bedroom. Unobstructed light seeps in through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

ERIK (V.O.) Girl, ya Houdini on me again?

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY Madison sits down on the toilet. MADISON I'm here. Faith was lingering! Damn, I can't wait to get out of this place.

ERIK (V.O.) Run away already. I'll come get ya.

MADISON I wish there was a way.

ERIK I can make that wish come true. I'll send ya another package. This time, somethin' ya can sell. Use the money to run far away, and I'll come join ya.

MADISON Your last plan failed. We'll see about making another attempt.

ERIK You're the one who screwed it up.

THE HOUSE CREAKS

MADISON I gotta go. If she catches me on the phone, I'm done for.

ERIK (V.O.) Fine. I'll catch ya later.

MADISON You know you will.

ERIK (V.O.) You're desired.

MADISON Yeah, I know.

ERIK (V.O.) Kisses... down there.

MADISON

Bye!

Madison hangs up. She wipes the steam off the mirror and gazes at herself.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The front door is slightly open.

While Faith is seated on the couch, a light shadow looms behind her and creates the illusion of an unseen presence within the room.

Madison, absorbed in the MUSIC that plays through her headphones, enters through the front door. She places her keys on an entry table, alongside another set of keys which she swiftly takes and puts in her pocket.

The shadow behind Faith is gone when Madison turns to find her. She stops the music and removes her headphones.

Faith longs to communicate, but can't find the words.

Madison shakes her head while she walks towards the hallway.

FAITH Can I have a moment?

Madison stares at the hallway.

MADISON Really, Faith? I have a ton of homework and it's due tomorrow.

FAITH

Your room is a nightmare. After your homework, I want you to finish unpacking. Then, take the pictures of those boys down, along with the rest of that evil nonsense you have on your walls, and put the crucifix back up.

Madison spins around.

MADISON

No.

Faith unscrews a small bottle adorned with a cross, labeled "Holy water", and pours its contents into her hand.

MADISON (CONT'D) I'm not goi -- .

Faith splashes the water onto Madison's face.

MADISON (CONT'D) What the hell is this?

Madison wipes the water from her face.

FAITH By this Holy Water, and by your precious blood, wash away this evil, O Lord. Amen. Faith returns the bottle to her pocket.

FAITH (CONT'D) Talk back to me!? What has come over you? This isn't like you. What's happened to my baby girl?

#### MADISON

I'm not a child. I'm old enough to know how I like things, and it's <u>my</u> room. Dad wouldn't have a problem with it.

FAITH Your room is in  $\underline{my}$  house.

MADISON I have no choice but to live here. That's not fair.

FAITH Fair!? Look around you.

Faith rocks on her heels while she looks around the room.

FAITH (CONT'D) He left me with barely enough to keep this house, and now you're my sole responsibility.

#### MADISON

Sorry to be such a burden.

#### FAITH

A responsibility I cherish. I'm only trying to protect you... We used to be friends.

MADISON A friend would let me keep my room the way I want it.

Madison disappears into the hallway.

A single tear trails down Faith's cheek.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

The crucifix is hung back above the slightly open bedroom door. The family picture, painstakingly taped back together, sits on the dresser.

Madison slams down onto her bed. She exhales loudly, then SCREAMS into her pillow.

Faith's presence in the hallway obstructs the light that seeps in through the gap beneath the bedroom door, which CREAKS as it inches open.

MADISON Can't you just leave me alone!?

Madison hurls a pillow and hits the bedroom door, which abruptly stops.

Faith walks away.

Madison snatches her cell phone and swiftly taps on the screen. The browser springs to life and reveals a travel discount page.

As her social media profile materializes on the screen, an advertisement link promptly snatches her gaze: "LIVE STREAM - PEOPLE AWAIT YOUR PRESENCE!"

Madison hovers her finger over the link for a moment, then decisively presses down.

MADISON (CONT'D) I'll show you fair.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Soft candlelight flickers in from the living room.

Madison tightly holds her cell phone, its camera set to record video, as she points it out in front of herself. With caution, she advances toward the end of the corridor.

> FAITH (O.S.) Ede pelute kondo nadode --

Madison reaches the end of the corridor.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Illuminated solely by candles that are scattered throughout the space. A small blanket rests on the floor.

Faith kneels on the blanket, her eyes closed, as she sways back and forth, her hands in a prayerful gesture skyward.

FAITH (O.S.) -- igla tepete compto pele --

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Madison glances at her cell phone screen, which prominently displays a "LIVE" indicator in the upper left corner.

FAITH (O.S.) -- igme odkondo nefulu kelala --

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Madison cautiously peeks out from the hallway. Her figure is barely visible in the dimness of the room, as Faith sways back and forth.

FAITH -- nene pokonto ce folodelu --

The camera shakes, but Madison steadies it.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- impete la la feme olele --

Madison carefully inches a little further into the room.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- igdepekindo raogjapate relepo --

Faith's eyes snap open.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- oddo og cene --

Faith quickly turns her attention towards the hallway, only to find no one is there.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

The door is slightly open, as Madison turns on the sink, walks to the toilet, and sits down on its lid. Wide-eyed, she processes what she just saw.

BEDROOM DOOR CREAKS OPEN

FAITH (O.S.) Madison, are you still awake?

Madison's unease is evident as she hurriedly splashes water into the sink.

FAITH (O.S.) (CONT'D) It's past your bedtime.

MADISON Just had to pee.

FAITH (O.S.) Are you in the bathroom?

MADISON No, I'm peeing in my bed! Madison cautiously peeks through the partially open door as the bedroom door almost closes, but remains slightly open. She retrieves her cell phone from her pocket, and dials.

ERIK (V.O.)

Yo.

MADISON You seen it yet?

INT. ERIK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Erik swirls liquid in a beaker over a burner in his drug lab.

ERIK Of course, I saw it. Girl, I get notifications as soon as ya upload. Seems like you're becomin' quite the sensation, Ms. Popular.

MADISON (V.O.) I know. Low key, I'm getting a steady stream of followers.

ERIK Ain't ya scared she'll find it?

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Madison looks under the bandaid on her leg, at the scab.

MADISON Not really. At this point, I'm more scared about her mental state. She's been acting weird.

ERIK So, come here. I'll keep ya safe.

MADISON Yeah, right. You know I've never snuck out.

INT. FARMHOUSE - FAITH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Modestly furnished with a twin bed and a dresser topped with a television. A bedside lamp casts a soft glow and highlights a framed portrait of Faith and Madison on the bedside table. A reptile tank rests on the floor. The television flickers, its light illuminates Faith as she lies in bed.

A light shadow looms in the doorway behind her, and creates the illusion of an unseen presence within the room, as Faith reaches for the remote but hesitates, then looks to the door.

The light shadow is gone.

Faith attempts to switch off the lamp but freezes. Instead, she picks up the portrait and gazes at it.

EXT. FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

The yard beyond a bedroom window appears dim and eerie.

The window slowly slides open and a PERSISTENT SNORE can be heard from inside. Madison, dressed in all black, skillfully maneuvers her way out and to the ground.

Her movements shrouded in shadows, she springs into action as she navigates around the perimeter of the house.

INT. FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

Light flickers out from a window that Madison stands at. She rises onto her tiptoes and discreetly peeks inside to find Faith asleep in bed. She continues her journey toward the front of the house.

INT. FARMHOUSE - FRONT - NIGHT

Madison stealthily approaches Faith's car and takes cover out of sight. She retrieves a set of keys from her pocket and presses the fob button.

## BEEP BEEP

Madison intently watches the house, but there are no signs of movement or light. She carefully opens the car door. The interior lights flare on. She is about to enter the vehicle.

CLICK CLACK BOOM

A blast illuminates the porch and reveals Faith, who stands with a SHOTGUN! She cocks the weapon.

CLICK CLACK

Madison shuts the car door, and darkness engulfs her.

Faith scans the area, but the dim light makes it hard to discern any details.

FAITH (V.O.) Whoever you are, you picked the wrong house!

As Madison cautiously steps towards the trunk of the car, DIRT CRUNCHES beneath her shoes.

BOOM CLICK CLACK

Fear overtakes Madison as she cowers. She steals a glimpse through the car window.

Faith stands on the porch, the shotgun pointed out towards the darkness before her.

Madison drops to her belly. Tears flood from her eyes. Her attention is drawn to something beneath the car. She retrieves a short, thick stick.

FAITH Better run back to the darkness, before I bring you into the light! May God have mercy on your soul.

Madison hurls the stick to her left and dashes into the darkness to her right.

The stick lands with a MUFFLED THUD, its sound echos faintly in the night.

Faith FIRES TWO SHOTS into the darkness, followed by an attentive pause as she listens intently.

FOOTSTEPS RUN IN THE DIRT TO HER LEFT

Faith keenly detects a silhouette as it moves through the darkness. She aligns the shotgun with her target and FIRES TWO SHOTS.

DISTANT THUMP

Faith cautiously advances toward an elongated figure that lies in the darkness on the ground. As she approaches, it becomes clear that it is a lifeless WOLF, a copious amount of frothy saliva surrounds its fangs and mouth.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

A light shadow looms on the wall and creates the illusion of an unseen presence on the wall behind Madison, who SNORES peacefully in the bed.

A diamond-patterned SNAKE causes a noticeable lump as it slithers its way under the foot of her comforter.

HISSSSSS

HISSSSSS

The blanket gradually slips away, as the snake raises its head and prepares to strike.

DOOR CREAK

Madison jolts awake and SCREAMS, but finds nothing there.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Sunlight streams through Faith's open bedroom door.

Wrapped in a blanket, Faith emerges from her bedroom and looks at the thermostat. Despite being set at '74°F', the room temperature reads a chilly '53°F'.

INT. FARMHOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

The backdoor is slightly open, as Faith stands by the stove, her attention fixed on two eggs that fry in a pan. She shivers and seeks warmth from the stovetop.

A chair SCREECHES ACROSS THE FLOOR behind Faith. She turns her gaze towards Madison, who rushes to open the backdoor.

FAITH Sit down. Your breakfast is -- .

Madison swiftly exits and SLAMS the backdoor shut.

Faith turns off the stove and rushes to the backdoor.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Maddy!

Faith shakes her head. She leaves the backdoor slightly open as she walks back to the stove.

EXT. GREAT PLAINS - DAY

Endless fields and distant horizons unfold across a vast expanse of uninhabited land.

Madison walks down the road with her cell phone pressed to her ear.

MADISON Fuck my life. I have to walk so damn far. She spins in a complete circle.

MADISON (CONT'D) At least there's no one around for miles. People suck.

She reaches into her backpack and pulls out a soda can. She pops it open and takes a sip, then pours the rest out.

INT. RED CADILLAC - DAY (MOVING)

The outside world is a blur.

Erik clenches the steering wheel with one hand while he holds a glass pizzo pipe in the other. His cell phone sits on speaker mode next to him.

> ERIK I barely hear from ya anymore. Yet, here I am, doin' this after ya keep duckin' me.

INTERCUT - PHONE CONVERSATION

Madison holds the cell phone with her shoulder as she works to transform the soda can into a makeshift pipe.

MADISON Really? I'm not avoiding you. Faith broke the phone, and I have no computer. So, I only -- .

Erik steadies the wheel with one hand while he uses the other to place a chunk of white powder into the bulb of the pizzo.

> MADISON (V.O.) -- have so much time I can use my cell to connect with my friends.

> > ERIK

Don't confuse followers with friends. They ain't the same.

Madison places the roach of a joint into the can pipe.

MADISON Don't be a hater. I get mad love. My followers care about what I'm doing and what I have to say. That sounds like friendship to me. ERIK (V.O.)

People these days, they don't understand the true meanin' of the word "friend." They wouldn't care if your account was gone or if somethin' happened to you. But me, I actually wonder where ya been and why ya avoidin' me.

Erik holds a flame under the bulb. The powder liquefies and produces a stream of smoke. He slowly hits the pipe.

Madison lights up the can pipe and takes a hit.

ERIK (V.O.) I'm cool with your little socialmedia-star dream life, but I'm over these excuses.

Erik exhales a large cloud of smoke.

MADISON (V.O.) I swear, no excuses. I see the effort you're putting into this. I'll see you soon, and you'll see the effort I put in on your cock.

ERIK Drop the tease act. I'll buy the family crisis story, and for now... I'll be cool, but you best not take it for granted.

END INTERCUT

Madison grins.

MADISON I've been walking so long, --

She turns.

MADISON (CONT'D) -- I can't even see my...

As she looks back down the road, she halts.

A distance down the road, Faith's car approaches.

MADISON (CONT'D)

Oh, God!

Madison quickly drops the can and kicks it off the road.

MADISON

I gotta go.

Madison fumbles to put her phone away as she looks around. She discreetly retrieves a perfume bottle and sprays herself.

> MADISON (CONT'D) Like there's anywhere to go!

ERIK (V.O.) (from Madison's pocket) Mad? Don't hang up on me!

METAL-ON-METAL RATTLE grows louder as Faith's car approaches behind Madison, who quickens her pace.

MADISON Damn. Damn. Damn.

Madison shoves the perfume bottle into her pocket and rummages around.

ERIK (V.O.) (from Madison's pocket) Madison! I'm so done with -- !

The driver's side door is slightly open and intermittently RATTLES, as Faith's car pulls up behind Madison, and matches her exact pace.

HONK HONK

Madison's eyes remain fixed on the ground as she walks.

HOOOONK

The driver's side of the car rolls alongside Madison. The window CREAKS down, and Faith is behind the wheel.

FAITH

Madison.

MADISON

What?

## FAITH Are you okay?

Madison scratches the scab on her arm.

MADISON Yeah, just peachy. Madison forces a wide smile at Faith.

FAITH And the Oscar goes too...

Faith MIMICS A CROWD'S CHEER.

Madison keeps her pace.

FAITH (CONT'D) I meant, is your ear hurt? As I was driving up, I noticed you were messing with it.

Madison touches her ear.

MADISON Oh. No... I thought I felt a bug.

FAITH I'll give you a ride. Get in.

MADISON No, thank you. I've had enough harassment for today.

FAITH Stop being so dramatic. It's not like I beat you... but I will if you don't get into this car.

Faith smirks at Madison.

MADISON

There are all kinds of abuse, not just physical... And you know what? Stop labeling me as a bad person just because I'm upset!

FAITH

Come on now!? I don't abuse you or think you're a bad person. Lord knows I'm looking out for your best interests. The path you're on, it's one of negativity and shame. You're opening the door and letting Satan into our house.

Undeterred, Madison walks on.

FAITH (CONT'D) Lord Almighty, get in the car, Maddy. Now! GOSPEL MUSIC plays softly in the background, and the driver's side door occasionally RATTLES, as the car RUMBLES along the desolate dirt road.

A jug labeled "HOLY WATER" sits between Faith and Madison, as they sit in silence.

Faith shivers and reaches for the air conditioner.

FAITH Oh, it's already off.

Madison SIGHS.

FAITH (CONT'D) That's an interesting perfume. It has a natural, somewhat woodsy scent. I like it.

Madison SNICKERS, then dismissively shakes her head.

FAITH (CONT'D) Come on, Maddy. Work with me. You know I love you. Give things a chance, you'll see there's a good life for you here... with me.

MADISON Oh, yeah. Living our best life. We can winter in France this year.

FAITH It's the best life we can afford. Your father isn't exactly generous with financial support.

Faith's knuckles are white as she grips the steering wheel.

FAITH (CONT'D) He has yacht payments, expensive steaks to eat, and whores to fly around the -- .

Faith bites her tongue.

Madison steals a glance at Faith, then quickly diverts her gaze out the passenger window.

FAITH (CONT'D) Anyways... We pray and allow God to protect and provide for us.

MADISON Faith, I get it, just -- ! Faith stares straight ahead, her eyes slightly dilated as she drifts into her thoughts.

FAITH No, you don't get it! I care so much about you. One day, you'll realize it.

MADISON One day, you'll realize that you... you go too far.

Madison looks at Faith, who is lost in a thousand-yard stare.

FAITH I don't go far enough. I'm your mother. I'd do anything for you. You hear me Madison!? Anythi -- !

HOOOONK

#### MADI SON

Faith!

INT. FAITH'S CAR - DAY

Faith overshoots a stop sign, slams on her brakes, and stops, inches from a collision with the red Cadillac, which zooms past her hood, and swiftly continues down the highway.

Madison is in disbelief as she stares out the front window, while Faith's shocked expression portrays her astonishment.

FAITH Thank you, God, for -- .

Madison's disbelief transforms into disgust.

MADISON Really? God? I saved you!

Madison abruptly exits the car, and SLAMS the door shut.

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

A weathered bus stop is positioned on the highway, where it intersects with the dirt road.

Faith's car sits on the road, at the stop sign, as Madison walks towards the bus stop.

A distance from the crossroads, the red Cadillac pulls to the side of the road, then REVS its engine.

Unease fills Madison's face as she glances at Faith, then at the red Cadillac, and back at Faith.

INT. FAITH'S CAR - DAY

FAITH What's that guy's problem?

MADISON

Just go.

Faith inches the car forward.

BUS HORN

Faith slams on the brakes and narrowly avoids a collision with a school bus as it passes in front of her.

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

Madison glares at Faith, as the bus stops at the bench.

MADISON What's your problem!?

The school bus HONKS.

Madison storms off toward the bus and boards it.

INT. FAITH'S CAR - DAY

As the bus pulls away, tears well up in Faith's eyes.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The WIND HOWLS outside and causes the slightly open front door to CREAK.

GRACE (late-30s), embodies a unique blend of corporate sophistication and an insidious, witch-like aura, consistently wipes away sweat with a personal towel, sits on the couch as steam rises from the paper cup in her hand.

Beside her, HOPE (late-20s), timid presence complemented by a tender-hearted disposition, watches the steam that rises from her cup. She cautiously attempts to take a sip but finds it too hot.

Steam envelops Grace's face as she gulps from her cup.

Faith takes a seat and directs her gaze toward her cup.

FAITH I'm beside myself. What have I done to be forsaken?

Hope takes a cautious sip from her cup, winces at the heat, and lowers it from her lips.

HOPE Maybe she's just -- .

GRACE

That girl has strayed far from the righteous path. She may have to endure grief to rediscover the presence of the Lord.

HOPE She's just a young girl. How can you wish her harm?

GRACE You're so ignorant.

Hope retreats to her tea.

GRACE (CONT'D) Gabriel intended to bring forth Hell on Earth. He believed that only then would the human race prove worthy of God's love... and he's an angel!

FAITH Maybe she has wandered from the path. I, I try to set a good example... show her the beauty I've found, being reborn, but... ever since the separation, she's --

The front door swings open, and Madison enters.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- been so hard to deal with.

Madison sets down her keys and bag.

FAITH (CONT'D) My sweet, little girl's transformed into a little monster.

Madison playfully spins around.

MADISON

ROAR!

Madison bursts into LAUGHTER, but Faith is not amused.

# MADISON (CONT'D) Really, Faith, a monster?

Madison ROARS as she stomps towards Faith, who instinctively scoots back from her. Madison stops, shakes her head with disappointment, and turns to face Hope.

#### MADISON (CONT'D)

Hi, Hope.

Madison kisses Hope on the head, then looks at Grace.

MADISON (CONT'D)

Grace.

Grace nods in acknowledgment.

FAITH How was your day?

Madison rolls her eyes.

HOPE Madison, answer your Mother.

MADISON Being stuck out here fucking sucks.

Madison smirks.

#### GRACE

Madison!

FAITH See what I mean!?

MADISON What do you expect? Look around you. Open your eyes!

Faith looks straight at Madison.

FAITH I don't know what I see.

Faith looks to Grace.

FAITH (CONT'D) Do you!?

HOPE She's just being a brat.

MADISON Jeez, I was joking. GRACE Acting like a monster to your mother is no joke.

MADISON Says the woman with no kids.

Faith SLAPS the table.

Madison!

FAITH

HOPE

Okay, that's enough.

GRACE Did anyone ask for your opinion?

Madison turns her attention to Hope.

#### MADISON

Just give up. There's no reasoning with these two. Faith believes that "The Smurfs" was created by the Devil. They use a kid's cartoon to lure people to his side. I mean, com -- .

FAITH

It is pure evil! Magical creatures, a sorcerer, spells, the occult. It's a way to introduce kids to the dark arts, using colorful images and fun.

MADISON This is what I have to deal with! I just can't right now. My tummy hurts. Maybe I'm having cramps.

Madison disappears into the hallway.

MADISON (O.S.) (CONT'D) Or... maybe I'm pregnant!

DOOR SLAMS SHUT

Faith flinches. She rises and walks into the hallway.

FAITH Don't think you're coming out of that room tonight!

Hope casts a worried glance toward the hallway. Grace's gaze fixates on the hallway with an ominous leer.

### GRACE Evil has taken root within her, and its influence grows.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The light turns on and illuminates the pristine room.

Madison angrily tosses her bed linens to the floor and jumps onto her mattress, eyes fixated on the bedroom door.

Faith's presence in the hallway obstructs the light that seeps in through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

Madison scowls until Faith walks away. She retrieves her cell phone and opens the LIVE FEED app.

CU - CELL PHONE SCREEN

The homepage fills the screen and features an upside-down cross as the profile picture. The feed's title reads: "VIDEOS OF A 'MAD' LIFESTYLE." Her follower count stands at 30,000.

The camera switches to a reverse camera shot of Madison, and the "LIVE" indicator appears in the upper left corner.

Madison waves at the camera.

#### MADISON

It's Mad'ness here. You know to keep checking my feed for insane videos. This next one is going viral! Be the first to witness what crazy looks like!? What you see tonight is gonna leave you shook! I'll keep you posted.

Madison throws up a peace sign, and the image freezes. The "LIVE" icon vanishes as a play button appears over her face.

The feed scrolls until it stops on a thumbnail that showcases a terrified expression on Madison's face, partially obscured by a translucent play button. Below it, the text reads "MY HOLY CRAP LIFE - 2.7K VIEWS."

The play button disappears, as a timeline counts down at the bottom of the screen, and Madison's terrified expression comes to life.

MADISON (O.C.) (CONT'D) No shadows, we're safe. Alright, let's do this!

Madison reverses the camera, then approaches the slightly open bedroom door.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison stands near the slightly open bedroom door, where a muffled, rhythmic MELODY emanates from an unseen tambourine, guitar, and accordion.

MADISON (0.C.) (whispers) Coast clear-ish. Low key, you know you watch to see the extra things she does. But deep down, you're more afraid of what might happen to me if I get caught, considering what you've seen in my videos.

Madison exits.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

It is solely lit by a dim glow that flickers in from the living room.

Madison holds her phone in front of her as she moves down the hallway. With each step, the MELODY grows more distinct and blends with an INDISTINCT CHANT.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The MELODY and CHANT are distinct.

CROWD (0.C.) (muffled, chants) Glory to Thee, our King.

Scattered candles cast a dim glow throughout the room, while firelight flickers through a side window.

Madison tiptoes towards the window.

MADISON (whispers) Here we go!

CROWD (O.C.) (muffled, chants) Glory to Thee, our King.

Madison positions her cell phone on the windowsill.

EXT. FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

Outside the window, a lively bonfire illuminates the scene.

The MELODY is played by JOHNSON (30s), on tambourine, MARY (late-20s), on guitar, and CARLIAL (30s), on accordion, as a small CROWD encircles them.

CROWD (chants) Glory to Thee, our King.

Faith, hands raised toward the heavens, gracefully dances.

MADISON (O.C.) (whispers) Hope you're all seeing this.

A diamond-patterned SNAKE hangs from Grace's neck, as she drags Hope into the center of the circle.

CROWD Glory to Thee, our King.

MADISON (O.C.) (whispers) Oh no, Aunt Hope.

Grace releases Hope and passes the snake to Faith. The snake HISSES as it slithers from Grace's arm to Faith's hand. Grace positions herself a step behind Hope.

CROWD Glory to Thee, our King.

HOPE I don't think this is -- .

FAITH Don't doubt. God protects those who have unwavering faith.

Faith sways as she holds the snake in front of Hope.

CROWD Glory to Thee, our King.

MADISON (0.C.) (whispers) These people are crazy.

Hope steps back and inadvertently collides with Grace. Grace urges Hope forward and places her in front of Faith.

CROWD Glory to Thee, our King.

Frozen in fear, Hope stands motionless as the snake HISSES. Grace firmly clasps Hope's hand and extends it towards Faith. Hope trembles as she closes her eyes tightly. She takes a deep breath and relaxes her arm.

# FAITH Keep your faith in God.

Hope's arm quivers as the snake slithers up it.

### CROWD Glory to Thee, our King.

The MUSIC and CHANTS blend into an INDISTINCT RYTHMIC HYPNOTIC SOUND.

Hope is terrified.

Faith's eyes widen.

Grace smiles from ear to ear.

The snake slithers around until it stops and stares directly into Hope's eyes. It whips its head back and sinks its teeth into Hope's arm! Its eyes popped out, it doesn't blink, as blood gushes from the puncture.

MADISON GASPS

Faith swiftly removes the snake's teeth from Hope's arm and pulls it away from her.

Hope clutches her arm and crumples to the ground, as she releases a PRIMAL SCREAM.

Grace swiftly covers Hope's mouth and shushes her.

FAITH Those who do not have faith will be cast down!

INT. FARM HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Madison grabs her phone and rushes back to her room.

MADISON (O.C.) (under her breath) Oh my God! Oh my God!

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Madison rushes in, but leaves the bedroom door slightly open. She retrieves the cell phone.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Madison enters and leaves the door slightly open. She peeks into the bedroom, then quickly dials her cell phone.

MADISON'S P.O.V. - THROUGH THE SLIGHTLY OPEN DOOR

The bedroom is unoccupied and no light seeps through gap beneath the closed door.

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) Sheriff Jasik speaking. How can I help you?

BACK TO SCENE

Madison continues to peek into the bedroom.

MADISON My Mom's performing some kind of, of... crazy ritual. Please, send someone to -- .

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) Madison, you can't keep calling like this.

MADISON If you would send someone, I wouldn't need to. You have to get me away from these crazy peop -- .

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) We're not paid by the good people of this county to play counselor.

Madison peeks into the bedroom.

MADISON'S P.O.V. - THROUGH THE SLIGHTLY OPEN DOOR

Unimpeded light seeps through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

BACK TO SCENE

Madison steps away from the door.

MADISON Please, I'm terrified.

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) Are you injured?

MADISON I was bitten by a snake! SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) This ain't animal control.

MADISON

No, it was -- .

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) You need to understand, our time is valuable. Wasting it, that's against the law.

MADISON What I understand is that you won't do anything until it's too late.

SHERIFF JASIK R (V.O.) That's how the law works.

Madison cautiously approaches the door and peeks out.

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) Look, Madison, you seem like a nice kid, but --

MADISON (giggle) The law.

MADISON'S P.O.V. - INTO HER BEDROOM

Faith's presence in the hallway obstructs the light that seeps in through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

BACK TO SCENE

Startled, Madison quickly retreats.

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) -- eventually, I'll have to report these prank calls. You understand --

MADISON

But, I...

Madison takes a deep breath and peeks out the door again.

MADISON'S P.O.V. - INTO HER BEDROOM

Unobstructed light seeps through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) -- that it is illegal and carries a really severe prison sentence.

This isn't a prank.

BACK TO SCENE

MADISON (CONT'D) I understand, but I -- .

SHERIFF JASIK (V.O.) Prison, Madison! So for the last time, unless you have been <u>assaulted</u>, try talking to your mother instead of contacting us. Parental conflicts are a part of life. Good night, Madison.

MADISON No, please, I... Hello?

Madison looks at her cell phone. The call has ended.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

SILENT

Madison is huddled beneath the comforter on her bed, as she trembles in fear.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Madison sits on the couch, completely absorbed in a book.

The front door creaks slightly open.

Madison glances up, then returns her focus to the book.

DOORBELL

Madison's attention shifts to the front door.

MADISON

Hello?

WIND LIGHTLY HUMS through the open front door. Madison opens it to find Erik, dressed in a mail courier's uniform, as he holds a small package and stares at her.

MADISON (CONT'D)

Hi.

Erik's stare lingers, which makes Madison uncomfortable. He extends the package.

Madison takes the package and raises her eyes to meet Erik's blank stare.

MADISON (CONT'D) What... am I supposed to tip?

Madison watches as Erik turns, gets into his postal van, and drives away. She hesitates, then leaves the front door slightly open.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S ROOM - DAY

Madison examines the package and discovers it is addressed to her, with no return address.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

Madison walks over to the shower and adjusts the shower head. As she turns the water on, only half of the tub gets wet.

She steps into the dry section of the tub and closes the curtain. The room fills with steam, as Madison's focus remains fixed on the box. She opens it and reveals a bag of marijuana and an envelope.

She examines the marijuana, then opens the envelope. Inside, there's a hand-drawn greeting card that features an illustration of a woman's eye and the words "DRINK TO ME ONLY WITH THINE EYES."

Madison opens the card. Inside, she finds a handwritten message "Use this as a means to find your escape. Love, E. PS: Don't smoke it to escape, sell it to pay your way out!"

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

An open Bible lies on the floor, its pages defaced with pen marks and a hand-drawn portrait of a despondent girl.

Madison stretches in bed, then reaches for her cell phone. As she looks at the screen, a smile illuminates her face.

Her follower count reads 165K, and each of her videos has garnered thousands of views. She opens the comments and scrolls through them.

KNOCK KNOCK

Alarm courses through Madison as she swiftly conceals her cell phone.

MADISON One moment.

Madison quickly tucks the cell phone behind a pillow.

BEDROOM DOOR CREEKS OPEN

Madison spins around to find Hope, arm bandaged, enters, and gently closes the door.

MADISON (CONT'D) (sarcastic) Oh no, the door is closed.

Madison shakes her head and then nibbles on a fingernail.

MADISON (CONT'D) She's gonna *freak out*.

HOPE I can handle your Mom.

MADISON (sarcastic) You? Okay.

Hope approaches Madison.

MADISON (CONT'D) What...? Now you're here to preach to me?

HOPE That seems to be effective.

MADISON Seems to me, you're all hell-bent on it.

HOPE I see what you did there.

Madison smirks.

HOPE (CONT'D) Your Grandparents were the same way... Craziest thing is, they thought it worked, and look how we turned out. (rolls her eyes) It took years, years of selfreflection for me to even consider myself same after how your grandparents raised us. God bless their souls, they took me in, but, they also taught me exactly how <u>not</u> to behave.

Hope shivers, then huffs warm air into her hands.

HOPE (CONT'D) God, it's freezing in here.

Discouraged, Madison looks down at the floor.

HOPE (CONT'D) And this too shall pass.

MADISON It's not passing quickly enough!

Madison looks up at Hope, her eyes filled with tears.

MADISON (CONT'D) I'm about to make a chunk of money, and I think I'm gonna run away.

Instantly, fear washes over Madison's face.

MADISON (CONT'D) Oh God, please don't tell Faith I said that... I was just joking.

HOPE Not funny. All jokes aside, it's time to face reality. You can't run from your problems.

MADISON Prob<u>lem</u>. She's my only one.

HOPE You can't run away from your prob<u>lem</u>, Maddy.

MADISON I could join a Satanic cult. She'll never find me there.

Concerned, Hope looks at Madison.

MADISON (CONT'D) Fine, no more jokes.

HOPE It's hard to tell when you're joking and when you're not.

MADISON Fine. You want the truth...? At this point... running away seems to be the only answer.

Madison's eyes quiver as the weight of her words dawns upon her. Hope gently takes her hand.

HOPE

When you run away from your problems, you just create new ones, like wondering if your mom's okay... and what could have been. Plus, you know you'll miss me.

### MADISON

But you ran away.

HOPE And I returned with regrets. Your grandparents were already gone. I couldn't tell them -- .

Hope tears up as she stares into Madison's eyes.

HOPE (CONT'D) She cares about you. She loves you.

MADISON She sure has a messed-up way of showing it.

HOPE The problem is, your mom cares about you too much... but... is there really such a thing?

INT. ERIK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The lab sits in silence. The tray table is pushed aside, and on top of it, a mysterious CREATURE slumps at the center of the stainless steel tray.

Erik lifts a cell phone to his ear.

ERIK You've been avoidin' me.

MADISON (V.O.) Not at all.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison holds a half-packed duffle bag, as she stares at the slightly open hallway door and speaks on her cell phone.

MADISON I'm super busy with school and dealing with a crazy mom.

She scratches the back of her neck.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Madison shoves a toiletries bag into the duffle.

MADISON Keeping up with my posts and followers is exhausting.

Madison's eyes shift to the toilet.

INT. ERIK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Erik props up the mysterious CREATURE on a stand. It features a rabbit's torso, lizard legs, bird wings for arms, and a raccoon head with hollowed eyes.

> ERIK Don't act like ya don't see me reachin' out. I see ya posts.

Erik sweeps the small brush around the raccoon's eye sockets.

ERIK (CONT'D) Ya film those on ya phone, so I know ya see my texts. Whatcha think I'm stupid?

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

The toilet tank cover rests in an upside-down position on the tank, while the open plastic bag occupies the sink.

ERIK (V.O.) Don't make me drive over there. You'll learn, I have no reservation when it comes to smackin' a woman.

Madison sits on the toilet seat's lid.

MADISON Aggressive! Look, I got you. You can trust me.

INT. ERIK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Erik applies glue around the raccoon's eyes to secure Jenni's green eyeballs within the sockets.

MADISON (V.O.) This is all gonna work out. ERIK

Trust me when I say, I'll show up to collect, and it's either gonna be the cash or your ass.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Madison looks at her cell phone.

## MADISON

Really?

Madison shifts her gaze to the half-packed duffle bag.

FAITH (O.S.)

Time for bed.

Madison is startled.

MADISON Ye, ye, yeah, sure.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Faith, in flannel pajamas, cautiously peeks into the room.

## FAITH

Are you okay?

INTERCUT - MADISON'S BATHROOM/MADISON'S BEDROOM

Madison shoves the cell phone into her pocket.

MADISON

I'm fine.

Faith enters the bedroom and pauses.

FAITH God, I thank you for Madison. I feel so blessed --

Madison rolls her eyes in annoyance.

FAITH (O.S.) (CONT'D) -- to have her here. May angels surround her bed as she sleeps, and may she have pleasant dreams. Amen.

Madison shoves the marijuana back into the plastic bag. Faith heads towards the bathroom.

### FAITH (CONT'D)

Madison?

Madison struggles to seal the plastic bag.

MADISON

What?

Faith stands outside the bathroom door.

FAITH (O.S.)

Really!?

Madison hastily secures the toilet tank lid. She flips the toilet seat cover up and sits in a reverse position, just as Faith swings the door open.

FAITH (CONT'D) Say it... amen.

MADISON Wow. Amen, Faith.

 $$\ensuremath{\mathsf{FAITH}}$$  That's a weird way to sit on -- .

Faith glares at the toilet.

FAITH (CONT'D) What's that?

The plastic bag protrudes from under the toilet tank's lid.

Faith flips the lid over and reveals the plastic bag.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The tank's lid is thrown down on the bed.

Faith eagerly tears open the plastic bag, its contents spill out to the bed.

Madison and Faith stare down at the currency, lipstick, scale, and bag of marijuana.

Faith digs her nails into Madison's arm.

A struggle ensues, and they both tumble toward the bed. Faith manages to land on the edge of the mattress while Madison ends up in her lap.

Faith tries to maneuver Madison into a vulnerable position to spank her. Madison resists, and they crash to the floor, where they engage in a fierce struggle.

Madison gains the upper hand, as she kneels on Faith, then wrestles her arms down. A primal ROAR escapes Madison, as she lifts a fist to strike Faith.

Faith's teary gaze reflects confusion, weakness, and terror.

Madison pushes off Faith and scrambles back to her bed. She turns her back to Faith and begins to WEEP.

Faith's eyes remain fixed on Madison as she slowly retreats toward the bedroom door.

Tears stream down Madison's face.

CLICK

The lights turn off, which leaves only a faint glow that emanates from the bathroom, and another, from the slightly open hallway door.

Madison's attention shifts to the bedroom door.

Faith's presence in the hallway obstructs the light that seeps in through the gap beneath the bedroom door.

Madison retrieves her digital memo recorder and fights back tears as she presses play.

The sound of her own SNORE resonates from the device.

Madison's eyes remain on the hallway door as Faith looms for a moment, then walks away.

Madison leaps out of the bed and runs to the bedroom door. She lays flat, her head pressed against the floor as she peers through the gap beneath the door.

INDISTINCT GOSPEL CHANNEL

A tense beat passes.

Faith's shoes brush past Madison's eyes as she walks down the hall toward her bedroom.

Madison runs to her bed, reaches underneath, and retrieves the duffle bag.

She unlocks the window and attempts to open it, but it stubbornly refuses to budge.

She activates the flashlight on her cell phone and shines it onto the window's frame. She discovers an excessive amount of dried glue along all of its edges! INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Madison runs over to the window and attempts to open it, but it doesn't budge!

She shines her cell phone's flashlight onto the window's frame, and discovers an excessive amount of dried glue along all of its edges!

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison holds the duffle bag, as she scratches the back of her neck and stares at the bedroom door.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

INDISTINCT GOSPEL CHANNEL

A glow pulsates through Faith's slightly open bedroom door, at the end of the hallway.

Madison's bedroom door CREAKS open. She peeks out, steps into the hall, and heads toward the living room.

FAITH WHIMPERS

Madison slows down, visibly affected, but continues onward.

FAITH CRIES

Madison stops. She reluctantly turns around.

Madison tosses her duffle bag into her room and proceeds towards Faith's door.

INT. FARMHOUSE - FAITH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Bathed in the flicker of television light. On the screen, a seasoned PREACHER stands confidently at the podium, with a large CHOIR positioned behind him.

Faith lies in bed, her back to the door, tears stream down her face as she stares at a laptop.

Madison peeks in through the slightly open door.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Madison looks beyond Faith's shoulder, to the laptop.

On the screen, Richard, shirtless, smiles as he laughs and flirts with an unseen person.

### RICHARD

I love you.

An UNSEEN FEMALE rests her hand on his cheek.

INT. FARMHOUSE - FAITH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Faith SLAMS the laptop closed.

She softly WHIMPERS while she wipes the tears from her cheeks. She shivers and pulls the blankets up to her chest. She takes a deep breath to steady herself. After a moment of hesitation, she opens the laptop, but once Richard's face pops up, she breaks down and CRIES.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Madison nibbles on her fingernail, her gaze fixated over Faith's shoulder, on the laptop's screen.

On the screen, Richard LAUGHS and smiles. He closes his eyes and puckers up.

Madison quickly steps back. The television's glow flickers on her face and exposes the tears that roll down her cheeks.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Madison wakes up in bed, rolls over, and slowly opens her eyes, only to find Faith, a stern look across her face, is seated at the end of her mattress.

Hope stands uncomfortably near the bedroom door.

FAITH How dare you even think about running away.

Madison grimly looks at Hope.

MADISON You told her!?

HOPE She's your mom.

Madison gives Hope the evil eye.

HOPE (CONT'D) I'm sorry, I had no -- .

FAITH Don't apologize to her. MADISON I told you I was joking around.

FAITH That's not funny!

HOPE Sorry, Maddy, I had to tell -- .

Faith doesn't take her eyes off Madison.

FAITH I dare you to apologize again.

HOPE Well, you're not going to let me talk, so there's no reason to stick around here.

FAITH (sarcastic) Okay, bye.

Faith turns to Madison, her face scrunched in anger.

FAITH (CONT'D) You think you're running away?

Hope stops at the bedroom door, and looks at Madison.

HOPE Do you need anything?

MADISON I think you've done enough.

Devastated, Hope leaves.

FAITH Drugs, money, painting yourself up like a whore! Until I get the truth, you're grounded.

MADISON The truth is, you're crazy! You glued my windows shut!

FAITH Your Dad wasn't the only one skilled at construction.

### MADISON

And you wonder why he left you. It wasn't the religion or the fact that you're controlling... it's that you're crazy!

Faith raises her hand, prepared to slap Madison. Madison cowers. Faith drops her hand and collects herself.

FAITH No. I'm your mother.

Faith glares around the room.

FAITH (CONT'D) This is the last warning. Take all this nonsense down.

Faith exits and leaves the bedroom door slightly open.

Madison leaps out of bed and grabs the crucifix. Her face contorted with rage as she raises it above her head.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Faith rocks on her heels, her back to Madison's door. A tear rolls down her cheek. She turns around just as the door SLAMS shut, and the end of the crucifix pierces through it!

INT. FARMHOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

A kettle heats on the stove.

Faith rocks on her heels, fixated on the kettle.

Three paper cups sit on the table in front of Grace, whose forehead is beaded with perspiration.

Hope enters the kitchen and takes a seat. She looks up at Faith, who remains fixated on the kettle.

WHISTLE

Faith snaps out of her daze and turns off the stove. She proceeds to pour tea into the paper cups.

Grace shakes her head disapprovingly as she looks at her cup, then over at Faith.

Hope clears her throat as she motions to Grace to hold back.

Grace's face is engulfed in steam as she takes a large gulp from her cup, her eyes pierce through Hope.

Hope shivers slightly but warms herself with the steam from her cup.

GRACE It's about time we start calling this what it really is.

HOPE She's still young --

Grace sarcastically lip-syncs along as Hope talks.

HOPE (CONT'D) -- and overwhelmed by a modern world of unlimited information. I bet she's -- .

Hope notices that Grace mocks her.

HOPE (CONT'D) I'm serious. There's no filter anymore, and these kids are curious. Remember when we were -- .

Hope looks at Grace, who obnoxiously inspects a sugar cube.

HOPE (CONT'D) When I was young?

FAITH Oh, Hope, we're still waiting for you to grow up.

Hope sits up and adjusts her shirt.

GRACE

Young or old, when you stray from the path, you lose the power to ward off evil. And that child... that child's got evil in her.

HOPE She says she's cramping. Maybe it's worth taking her for a check-up.

GRACE

That's the dumbest thing you've said, yet. A doctor can't help with what plagues her.

FAITH I want to believe it's just her age, hormones, and all... but there's something different about her. I know my daughter.

HOPE She's a teenage girl. Have a doctor examine her. (MORE)

#### HOPE (CONT'D)

Or maybe a change of environment, getting her out of here, could help.

FAITH You think she's not good here? What, she should be back in the city? Back with her Father!?

HOPE No. I didn't mean that. I...

GRACE She doesn't need a doctor.

Grace takes Faith's hands into hers.

GRACE (CONT'D) She needs you to be strong. She needs God!

FAITH I don't want to upset her.

Grace abruptly stands up and glares at Faith.

GRACE You're weak with her like you were weak with him. You took the roles of mother and wife, and therefore, you're also being weak with God. That's why this has come upon you.

Grace gathers her things and heads towards the front door.

GRACE (CONT'D) You need to get right with God, and seek redemption, by helping your daughter... before it's too late.

Grace exits and leaves the front door wide open.

GRACE (O.S.) (CONT'D) Hope, are you coming, or am I leaving you?

Hope jumps up and hastily scurries out of the house.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tissues are scattered around Madison as she sleeps.

WHOOSH SNAP WHOOSH SNAP

Her eyes jolt open.

WHOOSH SNAP

Confused, Madison rubs her eyes.

WHOOSH SNAP WHOOSH SNAP

A faint shadow obscures the light that seeps through gap beneath the bedroom door, then vanishes, as Madison slowly gets out of bed.

WHOOSH SNAP WHOOSH SNAP

Madison tightly grips a pen, poised for defense.

WHOOSH SNAP WHOOSH SNAP

Madison cautiously approaches her bedroom door.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

It is solely lit by the dim light that flickers in from the living room.

WHOOSH SNAP

Madison clutches the pen as she cautiously shuts her bedroom door. She tiptoes down the hallway towards the living room.

As she turns on her cell phone, its glow floods her face. She quickly dims the screen, then taps it a few times. Her face takes up the entire screen, and the "LIVE" indicator appears in the upper left corner.

MADISON It's Mad here. If anything happens to me, at least y'all will witness it. Talk about some spooky shi -- .

WHOOSH SNAP

Wide-eyed, Madison reverses the camera and continues on.

WHOOSH SNAP

Fear grips Madison, but she pushes forward.

WHOOSH SNAP WHOOSH SNAP

Madison reaches the end of the hallway and readies her cell phone's front lens to face the living room.

WHOOSH SNAP WHOOSH SNAP

The front door is slightly open. The room flickers from the various candles that are scattered throughout the space.

On her knees, bare-chested and eyes closed, Faith bleeds from numerous wounds along her shoulder blades and upper back, as she tightly grips a FLOG in her hand.

Grace, drenched in sweat, keeps her eyes closed and hands lifted as she hovers over Faith.

GRACE (under her breath) Come into this child, on her knees, repenting and demonstrating her faith. Harder! Let him know you acknowledge your wrongs.

Faith lifts the whip and swings it over her shoulder.

WHOOSH SNAP

Faith winces momentarily but maintains her composure, but Grace shows no reaction.

Shocked, Madison's grip falters and she drops her cell phone.

THUNK

Faith's eyes snap open, and she covers herself in shame.

FAITH

Oh, God!

Grace lowers her hands and opens her eyes. Her face twists up in anger.

GRACE Why are you out of your room at this hour!?

Amid of their preoccupation, as Grace grabs a sweater and tosses it to Faith, and Faith hastily slips it on, Madison seizes the opportunity to kneel down and swiftly retrieves her cell phone.

> MADISON I, I... needed paper. Homework. See, dropped my pen.

Madison hides the cell phone close to her side and displays the pen. Grace marches over to her.

GRACE Homework? At this time of night? What are you up to?

Grace lifts Madison from the ground.

Madison discreetly slips the cell phone into her pocket.

MADISON Right now, I'm praying I didn't see what I just saw. What was that?

Grace pulls Madison towards the hallway.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Dim light flickers in from the living room and barely lights the corridor.

Grace storms in, and flips the light switch. The hallway is bathed in bright light as she drags Madison along.

GRACE That was none of your business. It's between your mom and God!

Grace hurls Madison towards her bedroom door, but it stubbornly remains closed and she SLAMS into it.

Madison slumps to the floor and looks up at Grace.

MADISON OMG, you're crazy!

Madison fights to get up.

GRACE You're driving me insane!

Grace fumbles with the doorknob. She manages to open it and shoves Madison into the room, then SLAMS the door shut.

Faith rushes up to Madison's door, just as Grace walks away.

GRACE (CONT'D) If you don't take action, I will.

Faith trembles, as she rocks on her heels.

FRONT DOOR SLAMS SHUT

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison stands in the center of the room, her gaze fixed on the closed bedroom door.

Madison charges at the bedroom door and pounds both of her fists against it.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Faith stands at Madison's door.

MADISON'S FISTS POUND THE DOOR

Faith jerks back and SLAMS into the wall.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison seethes with hate as she stands at the bedroom door.

MADISON YOU'RE A TERRIBLE MOTHER!

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Tears stream down Faith's face as she sinks to the ground.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison's anger consumes her, her breaths quick and erratic. She CRIES OUT, falls into a prayer position, and places her head against the bedroom door.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Madison is seated on her bed, deep in thought, as she absentmindedly chews on a fingernail. In front of her is a magazine open to an article titled "BE BEAUTIFUL, BE STRONG, BE WOMAN." She looks up at the collage.

The bedroom door swings open. Hope rushes in and swiftly closes the door.

MADISON Leave me alone.

Hope pulls Madison close.

HOPE If you were going to run away, how would you do it? MADISON

Wait, what?

HOPE Run away, how, tell me. Hurry up, before they fig -- !

FOOTSTEPS IN THE HALLWAY

Hope looks at the bedroom door.

HOPE (CONT'D) Never mind.

MADISON

But -- .

Madison's bedroom door flies open. Grace pulls Faith into the room and drags her up to Madison. Grace gazes down at Madison while Faith rocks on her heels.

Hope retreats and cowers near the bedroom door.

MADISON (CONT'D) What are you doing in here? Get out of my room!

GRACE

This!

Grace snatches the magazine from the bed.

GRACE (CONT'D) Trash like this fills your head with lies and deceives you with fake lifestyles and physiques.

Grace ruthlessly tears pages from the magazine.

MADISON You're fucking insane!

Grace SLAPS Madison across the face with the magazine.

FAITH This is for your own good.

Madison lunges towards the magazine, but Grace grips her arm and keeps it out of her grasp. Madison clenches Grace's arm and forcefully pulls it down. Grace momentarily buckles under the pressure.

Faith firmly pulls Madison's grip from Grace's arm.

FAITH (CONT'D) Stop, you're hurting her.

## MADISON She's hurting me!

Madison wriggles out of Grace's grip and maneuvers past Faith. Grace lunges to catch Madison, but she evades her and climbs onto the bed. Madison leaps off the bed and races towards the bedroom door, where Hope stands as an obstacle in her path.

## FAITH

Madison!

## GRACE

Stop her!

Hope grabs ahold of Madison, who attempts to break free.

Grace's face contorts with repulsive anger.

### GRACE (CONT'D) TAKE HER DOWN!

Hope's eyes widen in shock as she comprehends her actions. She purposefully releases her grip, and Madison dashes out of the room.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Madison races with steadfast determination.

### GRACE (O.S.) You moron!

A loud SLAP resonates from Madison's room.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Madison charges towards the front door, swings it open, and bolts outside.

EXT. FARMHOUSE - DAY

Madison SCREAMS as she leaps off of the porch. She loses her balance as she lands, takes a few steps, then instantly crashes to the ground.

CUT TO BLACK:

A black screen.

MADISON GROANS

MULTIPLE FOOTSTEPS APPROACH

INDISTINCT ARGUMENT BETWEEN FAITH, HOPE, AND GRACE FADES AWAY

SILENCE

FADE IN:

EXT. FARMHOUSE - DAY

Madison looks skyward as the clouds bounce. Her eyes shift downward, past her dusty clothes, to Hope, who carries her by the ankles. She raises her head and locks eyes with Grace who carries her by the wrists. She looks to her side, to where Faith stares back at her, as she's carried towards the house.

Madison squirms and passionately kicks.

## MADISON

Let me go!

FAITH Promise to come inside and go to your room?

Madison continues to struggle.

MADISON I'm hurt. You win.

FAITH

Promise?

MADISON

On God!

FAITH

Not funny.

Madison struggles as is gradually lowered. Grace loses her grip and Madison's upper body THUMPS onto the ground. Madison breaks free from Hope's grasp, springs to her feet, and swiftly rushes into the house.

Faith lunges forward, but Grace firmly holds her back. Simultaneously, Grace reaches out in an attempt to grab Hope.

Hope eludes Grace's grasp, and disappears into the house.

GRACE

Hope!

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Hope peers through Madison's partially open door. Inside, Madison is curled up on the floor, as she WEEPS.

Faith and Grace storm in, but abruptly stop when a FURIOUS SCREAM emanates from Madison's room.

MADISON (O.S.) I HATE YOU!!!

Hope lowers her head in despair. Faith rocks on her heels for a moment, then nods at Grace, who reciprocates.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

Madison stands at the sink, as she uses her arm to wipe away her tears. She washes the dirt off her hands, then splashes water on her face.

THUD THUD THUD

Madison raises her head.

THUD THUD THUD

Madison grabs a towel and dries herself.

THUD THUD THUD

Towel still in hand, Madison rushes out to her bedroom.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

The room is shrouded in an unusual darkness, a mere sliver of light seeps through the edges of the blacked-out window.

THUD THUD THUD

Madison hurries to the light switch and turns on the overhead light. She stares at the window.

The outside of the window is barricaded with plywood.

THUD THUD THUD

Madison drops the towel and dashes back to the bathroom.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - DAY

The room is dimmer than before.

Madison bursts in, her eyes locked on the window, which is partially barricaded from the outside by plywood.

Hope peers through the uncovered portion of the windowpane, and mouths a silent apology.

Hope steps back. A plywood board swings up and blocks out the rest of the window.

MUFFLED HOPE WHIMPER

THUD THUD THUD

MADISON (CONT'D)

Please!?

HOPE'S WHIMPER FADES AWAY

FOOTSTEPS TRAIL OFF

Madison collapses onto the toilet seat lid. She uncontrollably WEEPS into her arms. Her face contorts with anger as she looks up.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Madison anxiously stands at the bedroom door. She takes a few deep breaths, then reaches for the handle. She's startled when the door opens itself.

Out of breath, Hope rushes into the room.

MADISON How could -- !?

HOPE There's no time for that! You know I love you, so please be quiet and listen to me.

Madison composes herself and gestures for Hope to continue.

HOPE (CONT'D) Your Mom and Grace are out front, discussing how to handle this.

MADISON This!? I'm a human being! They can't keep me in here!

HOPE That's why I came back here. We need to get you away from this house... from them.

MADISON Then get me out of here. Now! HOPE Lower your voice. If I knew what to do, would I be asking for ideas? Your mom is too strong, and Grace, she's unpredictable.

MADISON They're both crazy.

HOPE Exactly. Look, when the time is right, you'll know what to -- .

FAITH (O.C.) When the time is right for what?

Madison and Hope turn their attention towards the doorway, where Faith now stands.

HOPE When the time is right, she'll know what to believe, because God will guide her.

Hope looks at Madison.

HOPE (CONT'D) She'll see a sign.

Hope subtly signals Madison with her eyes and conveys the message "Do you understand?".

Madison nods in approval.

MADISON I was lost, but I'm not anymore. I've been acting up... handling this situation all wrong. I can do better... I'm sorry.

Hope nods in agreement.

HOPE See? No kids, but I can still talk some sense into yours.

FAITH Alright then, thanks, I'll take it from here.

Hope pretends to kiss Madison, but whispers in her ear.

HOPE

I've got you.

Hope discretely winks at Madison.

Faith's eyes follow Hope as she walks towards the bedroom door. Hope pauses, then looks back at Faith.

HOPE (CONT'D) And fix your heater. It always freezing in your house.

Hope exits.

A tear rolls down Faith's cheek as she looks at Madison.

FAITH You know I love you.

MADISON So this is love?

Madison points out the plywood that blocks the window.

Tears flood down Faith's cheeks.

FAITH You have no idea how much this is tearing me apart. What doing this to you, is doing to me.

MADISON

Doing to you!

Faith reaches out to embrace Madison's hand, but Madison pulls away.

FAITH You don't grasp the true meaning of love, yet. It's not some... some... magical force that makes everything easy. It's not just about kind gestures that show someone cares. It's about, about... how far someone is willing to go to be there for you... Real love... real love means staying loyal, even when things seem hopeless. And I know right now, right now things seem hopeless. But I promise you, I promise, I won't give up. I'll go to the depths of Hell if I have to, and rip you back from this evil.

Madison steps up into Faith's face.

MADISON The only *evil* I see here is you! Know why Dad left? I may be young, but I understand love. (MORE)

### MADISON (CONT'D)

He loved me but couldn't stand you because you're a psychotic, controlling, crazy bitch!

Faith SLAPS Madison!

Madison clutches her cheek, while Faith glares back at her.

FAITH Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right! Ephesians 6:1-3.

Rage consumes Madison, and with a SINISTER GROWL, she SLAPS and claws at Faith. Faith attempts to restrain Madison.

MADISON You drove Dad away! You ruined my life! You're true evil!

Madison's fist connects with Faith's jaw. Faith clutches her chin, takes a few steps back, and stares at Madison in shock.

MADISON (CONT'D) I. Hate. You.

Devastated, Faith exits and leaves the bedroom door partially open behind her.

Madison grabs the towel from the floor, wraps it tightly around her fist, and then punches the window. She remains resolute as the shattered glass rains down around her.

Faith enters.

FAITH What have you done!?

Madison spits at Faith.

MADISON I still can't leave the room!

FAITH God help you if you -- !

MADISON God help you if you think you can lock me in here.

FAITH I am your mother, and you will start obeying me!

Faith walks to the wall and tears down a poster.

## FAITH (CONT'D) Take down all of this demonic --

Faith rips several magazine pages off the wall.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- ungodly --

Faith tears down a boy band poster.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- evil -- !

Enraged, Madison rushes up to Faith.

Faith reaches for a magazine page, but Madison snatches it off the wall before she can touch it.

MADISON You want to tear things down, huh?

Madison tears pages and posters off of the wall.

MADISON (CONT'D) Is this what you want, Faith!?

Madison reaches her desk and hurls the pen jar, which shatters on the ground. She throws the desk lamp down. She topples the desk over. She continues to rip down anything that crosses her path.

Frightened, Faith retreats into the hallway.

Madison SLAMS the bedroom door in Faith's face! Her eyes flare with anger as she surveys her room. Then suddenly, her expression changes from anger to resentment.

Confusion engulfs her as she scans the room, and begins to tremble. She CRIES and drops to her knees, right into the shattered glass.

A shard of glass, as long and sharp as a knife, lies on the ground before her. She picks the glass shard up and tears stream down her cheeks. She battles her inner turmoil as she raises the shard toward her wrist.

CUT TO BLACK:

A black screen.

MADISON CRIES OUT

GLASS SHATTERS ON THE FLOOR

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT The front door is slightly open. A light shadow looms on the wall behind Faith, and creates the illusion of an unseen presence within the room, while she sits on the couch and SOBS. Grace lets herself in. Hope enters and starts to close the front door, but leaves it slightly open. The shadow has vanished. Faith looks up. FAITH I can't believe this has happened. Hope tries to comfort Faith, but she pulls away. GRACE Believe it. But have faith in God. FAITH I don't know if I can handle this. GRACE She's left us no choice. We can't leave her like that. HOPE Can't we just call someone to help us wit -- ? GRACE You're naive. We need to keep this private... keep her here. FAITH We don't have the necessary things here to -- . GRACE We'll leave Hope, go into town, and grab a few -- . FAITH She has no faith. She'll only get in the way. HOPE I won't screw this up. I swear. Faith glares at Hope. HOPE (CONT'D) To God.

Madison SOBS as she paces the room. She absentmindedly scratches the back of her neck, unaware of a gnarly scab that has formed there.

She retrieves her cell phone and opens the LIVE FEED app. Her troubled expression fills the screen. The "LIVE" indicator appears in the upper left corner.

MADISON She's gone too far!

Madison reverses the camera and shows the boarded-up window.

MADISON (CONT'D) I mean, this isn't a stunt. This is really happening.

Madison heads towards the bathroom.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Madison aims the front camera of her cell phone at the boarded-up window.

MADISON I'm trapped... like a rat!

Madison reverses the camera. Her horrified face fills the phone's screen.

MADISON (CONT'D) If anyone's watching, please, please send help! I'm at 5348 Roanoke Road... in Springfield... I... I don't know what they'll do to me. I'm so scared! I'm young. I, I cherish my life. I want to live! I WANT TO LIVE!

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is in disarray, littered with torn posters, shredded magazine pages, and broken desk. Glass is scattered on the floor, near the window and adjacent to the stack of pens.

Madison sits on her bed and nibbles a fingernail, as she looks at her cell phone.

On the cell phone screen, a message feed that consists of a relentless stream of troll hate, doubters, and snide remarks, scrolls over a still frame of Madison's face.

Madison taps furiously on the cell phone screen.

MADISON This is not fake news!

She scrolls further and then types furiously.

MADISON (CONT'D) No, this is <u>not</u> a joke. Really? Publicity? Marketing!?

She glares at her cell phone in disbelief.

MADISON (CONT'D) Sending prayers!? Send help!

She angrily taps away on the phone's screen. She scrolls through the messages, then abruptly stops.

MADISON (CONT'D) I'm fat!? I need to stop making videos and start dieting!? What!?

She throws her cell phone to the bed and WEEPS.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Grace sweats profusely as she impatiently waits by the slightly open front door.

Hope sits on the couch, lost in thought.

Faith rushes in from the hallway and searches the room.

FAITH

You ready?

GRACE What do you think?

Faith shakes her head. She retrieves her purse, takes a deep breath, and then looks at Grace.

FAITH I mean... is everything prepared?

GRACE I made the necessary arrangements, even some extras we might have overlooked. Better to be overprepared than caught off guard.

FAITH Alright then... we're doing this.

Faith exits.

Grace raises her nose into the air and glares at Hope.

HOPE

I promise.

Hope's demeanor shifts to fear.HOPE On God, I can handle this.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The bedroom door is closed.

Madison lies on her bed and clutches her cell phone tightly.

BUZZ BUZZ BUZZ

She looks at her cell phone screen. It shows a missed call from Erik. Suddenly, the picture of a blonde haired, blueeyed, catfish picture of "Nate", with Eric's name underneath it, pops up on the screen.

BUZZ BUZZ BUZZ

She takes a deep breath, then accepts the call.

MADISON I told you, never call, only text.

ERIK You don't tell me what to do.

MADISON Now's not a good time.

ERIK (V.O.) Ya, bet it isn't! Ya messin' with the wrong person.

INT. ERIK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Erik is absorbed in a new project, which features the combination of a cat's body and a dog's head, with hauntingly hollowed-out eyes.

ERIK After all I did for ya, ya gonna do me like this!? Ya can't play me!

MADISON (V.O.)

Savage!

Madison sits up in bed.

MADISON It's nothing personal. My life is a living Hell right now.

ERIK (V.O.) Ya think ya know what Hell is like, but I promise, --

INT. ERIK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Erik picks up a brush and idly plays with its bristles.

ERIK -- screw me over and you'll know for sure.

Erik brushes at the dog's empty eye sockets.

ERIK (CONT'D) I swear you'll wish ya never got that work fronted.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison promptly stands.

ERIK (V.O.) Ya gonna regret ya played with my emotions, Madison.

Terrified, a tear rolls down Madison's cheek.

DOORKNOB RATTLES

Madison frantically shoves her cell phone under the covers, just as the bedroom door bursts open, and Hope storms in.

HOPE

Let's go.

Baffled, Madison stares at Hope.

MADISON

Go?

HOPE What's wrong with you? Let's go! Now! Go. Go. Go. Hope seizes Madison's arm and rushes her to the dresser, where she opens the first drawer.

HOPE (CONT'D) Grab essentials!

MADISON Um, okay, but -- .

Madison reaches out to grab something from the drawer. Hope narrowly avoids Madison's hand as she CLAPS it shut.

HOPE Don't take anything, let's just get you out of here.

Madison breaks free from Hope's grip.

MADISON Wait, but... they aren't going to let me leave.

HOPE Your mom and Grace just left. They went to get some supplies, and we need to get you out of here before they come back!

MADISON Supplies for what!?

Hope grabs Madison and pulls her towards the bedroom door.

HOPE No time to explain!

Hope pushes Madison into the hallway, and exits.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Hope rushes Madison towards the living room.

HOPE They'll never let me live this down. I swore to God I wouldn't let you leave.

MADISON Thank you. I'll owe you for the rest of my life.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT Hope and Madison rush in and towards the front door. HOPE

You won't have to owe me for long. Grace is going to kill me for this.

EXT. FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

The moon illuminates the scene.

Hope rushes down the porch stairs.

HOPE I'm probably gonna burn in Hell for lying. But if it means helping you escape from -- .

Confused, Hope halts and turns around.

Madison remains on the porch and stares back down at her.

MADISON Where's your car?

HOPE Grace drove me here.

MADISON Someone tried to steal Faith's car, and now she always has her keys with her! How did you expect us to get out of here!?

Hope bounds up the stairs and stands beside Madison.

HOPE I didn't think that far ahead! They left, and I acted impulsively.

MADISON Impulsively? Like asking a child for advice on how to run away? Hope, you're the adult here. You're

supposed to be the responsible one.

Madison stares deep into Hope's eyes.

MADISON (CONT'D) Well, I'm not going back in there.

Hope stares off the porch, into the distance.

HOPE

You might not have a choice.

Madison swiftly turns around.

Headlights race down the road toward the house.

Madison backs away from Hope.

MADISON Everyone has a choice.

Panic-stricken, Madison's eyes scan her surroundings.

MADISON (CONT'D) There. The tree. We'll hide behind the trunk.

Madison wrenches free from Hope's grasp and sprints towards the tree.

HOPE Come back, Madison, we'll find -- .

Hope looks off to the road.

Dust billows in the air, and as it settles, the unmistakable sight of Faith's car emerges, as it barrels down the road.

DISTANT METAL-ON-METAL RATTLE

Hope chases after Madison as they both sprint desperately toward the tree.

Faith's car turns onto the driveway and starts the long trek toward the house.

Madison and Hope desperately flee toward the tree, which looms just a few yards away.

Madison reaches the tree and disappears behind its trunk. She peeks out and urgently gestures for Hope to hurry.

MAD ISON Come on, Hope!

Hope pushes herself with all her might. She reaches Madison and they both disappear behind the tree trunk. They cautiously peek out and observe the scene.

METAL-ON-METAL RATTLE

Faith's car speeds towards the house. The car suddenly turns off the driveway and redirects its course toward the tree!

MADISON (CONT'D) They know we're here!

Without hesitation, Madison darts out from behind the tree and runs towards the house.

HOPE Maddy! I can handle this. Hope chases after Madison.

HOPE (CONT'D) Madison, stop!

Hope is a short distance behind Madison, as Faith's car passes the trees and pursues them. Hope abruptly stops as Faith's car bears down on her.

> HOPE (CONT'D) No one's going to hurt you.

Hope turns. In a last-second maneuver, she lunges out of harm's way, but Faith's car clips her. She somersaults through the air and then crashes onto the ground.

Faith's car bears down on Madison, who SCREAMS in horror as she sprints towards the house.

In a frantic glance over her shoulder, Madison's eyes widen with disbelief.

Faith's car is feet away from her, and Grace is behind the wheel, as Faith sits passenger and holds on for dear life.

The car's bumper comes perilously close to Madison, mere inches away, but it abruptly halts as she swiftly bounds up the stairs and onto the porch.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Light beams through the front windows.

Headlights blast through the front door as it opens. Madison is silhouetted by the radiant glow as she runs in.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison enters and SLAMS the door shut. She turns on the light and looks around.

She pushes the desk across the floor and wedges it against the doorknob.

She retrieves her cell phone and opens the LIVE FEED app. Her face fills the screen. The "LIVE" indicator appears in the upper left corner. She reverses the camera and then runs to the dresser.

She props the cell phone up against a stuffed animal, its front lens pointed at the bed. Madison steps back and addresses it.

## MADISON This may be my last post.

Light seeps through the gap beneath the bedroom door without obstruction, as Madison lowers herself onto her knees.

Tears well up in her eyes as she gazes at the cell phone.

MADISON (CONT'D) I'm pleading. I have no one but you and no one has called for help. No one has -- .

FOOTSTEPS IN THE HALLWAY

Maddy looks to the bedroom door, where two sets of shadows obscure the light that seeps in through the gap below it.

KNOCK KNOCK

MADISON (CONT'D)

Please...

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

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MADISON (CONT'D)
I need help.
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BANG BANG BAN

MADISON (CONT'D)

Help!

BANG BANG BANG BANG

MADISON (CONT'D)

Anyone!!!

The bedroom door swings open and hurls the desk toward Madison. She springs out of the way and tumbles to the ground, as the desk SLAMS into the wall!

Grace, as sweaty as ever, her neck adorned with a stole, storms in, a crucifix gripped tightly in her hand.

Faith follows closely behind Grace.

Grace reaches down and lifts Madison from the floor.

FAITH What have you done to Hope?

MADISON What have I done? What did you do!? GRACE What evil game did you play with her head, demon!?

MADISON What in the Hell is wrong with you?

#### GRACE

Begone, Devil!

Grace shoves the crucifix into Madison's chest and knocks the wind out of her. She almost buckles but manages to steady herself. Faith brims with optimism and looks at Grace.

> GRACE (CONT'D) The demon weakens!!!

> > FAITH

It's working.

GRACE Move her to the bed.

Madison grasps for air as Grace and Faith overpower her and drag her toward the bed.

MADISON You're <u>crazy</u>! Let me go.

Faith and Grace throw Madison onto the mattress and then hold her down.

Hope appears visibly battered and bruised as she limps in.

HOPE No! Let her go!

Hope hurries to Madison's side, but Grace swats her away.

GRACE Moron, you're getting in the way.

Madison emits a GROWL as she claws and kicks at Faith.

MADISON I'll never forgive you for this!

Tears well up in Faith's eyes.

GRACE Stay strong! It is not your daughter speaking to you! Your daughter loves you unconditionally. Have faith!

Faith looks at Grace and nods. Grace glares at Hope.

HOPE

Fine!!!

Hope limps over to the bedside.

HOPE (CONT'D) What do you want me to do?

GRACE

Help!

Madison's eyes dart around anxiously, as Hope rips the sheet out from under her, then tears it into four pieces.

MADISON

Please --

Grace and Faith struggle to restrain Madison.

MADISON (CONT'D) -- let me go. You're all <u>crazy</u>!

Hope struggles to secure Madison's right wrist to the bedpost and proceeds to tightly wrap a torn sheet around both.

Madison bites onto a pillow and hurls it at Grace.

Hope struggles to secure Madison's left wrist to the bedpost and proceeds to tightly wrap a torn sheet around both.

Madison kicks her legs wildly.

GRACE Faith, hold her legs!

Reluctantly, Faith shuffles over and secures Madison's legs while Hope struggles to tie a torn sheet around them.

MADISON

Help me!

Madison's SCREAM IS MUFFLED as Grace's hand covers her mouth.

Hope completes the knot around Madison's legs. Faith eases her weight off Madison, and Grace removes her hand.

Madison struggles and SCREAMS, but the restraints hold.

Grace retrieves the crucifix while Faith arranges candles on the bedside table. Hope stares at Madison.

# MADISON (CONT'D) What are you going to do to me?

Faith is about to light a candle but hesitates.

MADISON (CONT'D) Please, help me.

GRACE We have to silence this demon!

Hope's gaze shifts towards the bedroom door, but Grace forcefully turns her head and looks deeply into her eyes.

GRACE (CONT'D) Hope! Hope snap out of it! We need a gag!

Madison's SCREAMS echo through the room. As if she's come out of shock, Hope blinks her eyes. Grace GROANS.

GRACE (CONT'D) Pull yourself together, Hope!

MADISON Get me out of here, Hope!

Tears stream down Hope's face.

Grace rushes to the dresser and opens the top drawer.

HOPE I don't know what to do!

With tear-filled eyes, Madison looks at Faith, who quivers as she holds back her emotions.

Grace SLAMS the drawer shut!

FAITH I'm here, baby. I know you're in there. Mommy's right here.

Madison quietly begs Faith.

MADISON Please. Pleas -- !

Grace stuffs a sock into Madison's mouth.

GRACE Faith, finish lighting the candles.

Faith WEEPS as she lights the candles.

Madison shifts her attention towards Grace.

GRACE

Faith, do not let the Devil deceive you! Keep your trust in the Lord and have faith in His strength. Hope's weak. I need you to be strong for Madison, for all of us.

Faith looks at Hope, then reluctantly rushes to Grace's side. Hope stares at Madison, who thrashes in the bed.

> GRACE (CONT'D) If you're so concerned, then hold her down, moron!

Hope hesitates, torn by her emotions.

GRACE (CONT'D) She's going to hurt someone.

Hope wipes her tears and gathers herself. She rushes to the bedside and holds Madison down.

GRACE (CONT'D) Faith, the Bible!

In a state of distress, Faith looks at Grace.

FAITH It's in the living room.

Madison WAILS OUT, and then SOBS.

HOPE This is too much. I'm gonna have a panic attack. I can't watch this. I can't handle -- !

Grace SLAPS Hope!

GRACE

Calm down! Step out, take a moment and get it together, grab the Bible, and come back.

Hope's gaze remains fixed on Madison, who pleads for help with her eyes.

GRACE (CONT'D)

Go!

Hope swiftly exits the room.

GRACE (CONT'D) AND COME BACK! INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Madison's muffled screams echo through the room, as Hope enters. Frantic, she scans the area until her eyes finally land on a Bible that rests on the arm of the couch.

Hope grabs the Bible but freezes instantly as Madison's SCREAMS INTENSIFY. She hangs her head in anguish. With determination, she retrieves her cell phone and dials 911.

FAITH (O.S.) Did you find it?

The cell phone slips from Hope's grasp, and discreetly slides behind a couch pillow.

Hope turns around and comes face-to-face with Faith. Faith takes the Bible from Hope's grasp and firmly grabs her arm.

HOPE This is wrong.

Madison's SCREAMS reverberate through the room.

FAITH (O.S.) My trust lies in God, and now it's in His hands.

Faith and Hope head into the hallway, while a faint glow emanates from between the couch pillows.

DEPUTY DOUGLAS (V.O.) (muffled, behind pillow) Police Station. Deputy Douglas speaking... Hello?

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Madison writhes in bed, while Grace stands nearby.

Faith pushes Hope into the room.

Grace snatches the Bible from Faith and signs the cross over her. She repeats the gesture over Hope, and then herself.

Faith retrieves the Holy Water, then sprinkles some on herself, Grace, and Hope. She sprinkles some on Madison's head. Madison SCREAMS as she dodges the water.

> MADISON I hate when you do that!

GRACE

Spare us, O Lord. Hear our prayers, O Lord. Deliver us from all evil, we sinners, as we humbly ask for your forgiveness. Do not hold our offenses, or those of our parents, against us, O Lord.

Grace extends her hands to Faith and Hope. They all join hands and bow their heads.

GRACE (CONT'D) Our Father --

Madison's tear-filled eyes fill the entire screen.

MADISON BREATHES DEEPLY

GRACE, FAITH, AND HOPE (V.O.) (fades, becomes muffled) -- who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom --

MADISON SCREAM

GRACE, FAITH, AND HOPE (V.O.) (muffled, fades away) -- come; thy will be done, on Earth as it is in...

SILENCE

MADISON WHIMPER

GRACE, FAITH, AND HOPE (V.O.)
(regains volume and
clarity)
-- us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil.

Madison SCREAMS.

Grace opens the Bible to a bookmarked page and reveals a few folded sheets of paper filled with scribbled notes.

Madison's eyes burn with anger as Grace continues to read from the pages.

GRACE Save your servant, who trusts in you, my God. Let the enemy have no power over her. And the son of iniquity be powerless to harm her.

FAITH Please, God.

Madison spits the sock out of her mouth.

FAITH (CONT'D) Save my daugh -- .

#### MADISON

I heard you cry! I saw you watching movies of Dad the other night! I actually felt sorry for you. But screw that, you deserve it!

Faith wipes her tears, as she glares down at Madison.

GRACE Don't let her get to you.

Hope comforts Faith.

# MADISON The truth hurts. Probably not as much as these restraints! Let me go! Now!

Madison CHUCKLES as she watches Faith push Hope out of the way, then run out of the room.

MADISON (CONT'D) It's time to face reality!

GRACE Faith, where are you going!? Get back here, right now!

EXT. FARMHOUSE - DAY

Headlights pierce through the darkness as the red Cadillac speeds down the driveway, then skids to a halt at the porch.

Erik bursts out of the passenger side, charges up the steps, and POUNDS on the front door.

ERIK I know you're in there, Mad... Open the door!

Erik KICKS on the door.

ERIK (CONT'D)

Open up!

Faith sets her laptop in front of Madison. The screen displays the earlier video of Richard, as he smiles and flirts with an unseen person. Faith presses play, the video begins, and Richard comes to life.

#### RICHARD

I love you.

Richard closes his eyes and puckers up for a kiss.

MADISON I already saw it. See, Dad used to be happy!

Faith gazes at Madison, who remains fixated on the screen.

The camera turns and reveals a YOUNG WOMAN, as she smiles and films herself, then kisses Richard on the lips.

In a swift motion, Faith CLAPS the laptop shut and removes it from Madison's sight.

FAITH Now you know... I loved your father, and he abandoned me... He abandoned us!

MADISON You told me he left!

FAITH I couldn't bear his infidelity any longer. He made his choi -- .

MADISON You told me he left us... you lied!

FAITH I was trying to protect you!

Faith SLAMS the laptop onto the ground!

MADISON You're crazy! You drove him away. I'd leave too --

Madison pulls at the restraints.

MADISON (CONT'D) -- if I could!

Grace pushes Faith to the side.

GRACE

I warned your mother that if he left me for her, he would do it again. But, no, she didn't listen to me and stayed with him! She was a devoted wife and an incredible parent! Your father was a... was a... a prick!

Grace looks at Faith, who stands obliterated.

GRACE (CONT'D) There, I said it!

Madison looks towards Hope, who responds with a nod. Tears well up in Madison's eyes as anger takes hold of her.

MADISON Let me go! You lying bit -- !

Grace stuffs the sock into Madison's mouth, then firmly presses a crucifix against her face. Madison SHRIEKS as Grace recites from the Bible.

GRACE Holy Lord, let your mighty hand cast Him out of your servant, so he may no longer hold captive, this person, whom it pleased you to make, in your -- .

Faith steps in and pushes the crucifix off of Madison's face.

FAITH That's enough! You're hurting her. That's still my daughter!

GRACE Not until we rid her of this demon!

Madison thrashes about before she suddenly stops. She looks directly at Faith and pleads silently with her eyes.

Faith looks away from Madison as Grace continues to read.

GRACE (CONT'D) I command you to obey me to the letter, for I am a minister of God, despite my unworthiness. Nor shall you be emboldened to harm, in any way, this creature of God, or the bystanders, or any of their possessions. Amen.

FAITH

Amen.

# HOPE

Amen.

Grace places her hand on Madison's head. Madison jerks away, spits out the sock, and sinks her teeth into Grace's palm!

#### GRACE

# Ah, damn it! Release me, demon!

Grace desperately pulls her hand, but Madison refuses to release it. Blood oozes from Grace's wrist and streams down Madison's chin.

Faith and Hope swiftly rush to Grace's side.

Hope holds Madison's forehead and pulls it back. Madison's eyes roll into her head as she GROWLS.

FAITH Let her go, Maddy!

Madison bites down harder and SNARLS! Faith tugs at Grace's hand, but Madison refuses to let go.

GRACE Get her off me!

Faith's hand reaches towards Madison's face, but Madison vigorously shakes her head and brings Grace's hand with her. Grace SCREAMS in anguish.

# FAITH

<u>Madison!</u>

Faith inserts her fingers into Madison's mouth and pries it open. Grace jerks her hand back and blood sprays everywhere. Blood oozes from Madison's mouth as Faith swiftly withdraws her fingers, which narrowly avoid Madison's teeth as they snap shut.

> MADISON (spits blood) I'll never forgive you. Any of you! When I get out of this, promise, I'm going to -- !

Grace pushes the sock back into Madison's mouth.

GRACE We need a better gag! Anything!

Madison's MUFFLED SCREAMS resonate in the air as Hope pretends to search, while Faith and Grace frantically look around for some kind of gag.

Grace grabs the lamp.

GRACE (CONT'D) Let's just knock her out!

## FAITH

Grace!

Grace lets go of the lamp and resumes her search.

## FAITH (CONT'D) Here. Here!

Grace snatches the scarf from Faith and rushes to Madison's side. She removes the sock from Madison's mouth. Madison SCREECHES and attempts to bite Grace.

GRACE

Help me!

Hope reluctantly holds Madison's head.

HOPE Please don't bite me.

MADISON If I wasn't tied down I'd --

Grace ties the scarf around Madison's head.

MADISON (CONT'D) (gagged) -- uk ew uf!

GRACE Lay your hands on her!

Faith and Hope lay their hands on Madison. Madison's eyes widen in pain as she struggles against the restraints.

Grace quickly scrambles through the Bible, opens it, and places one hand on Madison.

GRACE (CONT'D) They shall lay their hands upon the sick and all will be well with them. May the Lord show you favor and mercy.

Madison's hand manages to wiggle free from the restraint. She swings her fist at Grace and catches her on the nose. Blood spurts from Grace's nostrils as she topples over, hits her head on the bedside table, and falls unconscious.

A candle falls from the bedside table and rolls off onto the mattress. The comforter ignites!

Madison flails about as she tries to avoid the blaze.

Grace clutches her head and stands. A small stream of blood drips through her fingers.

Madison SCREAMS as the fire engulfs her side. She swats at the inferno, but the molten material clings mercilessly to her arm, where it blazes fiercely and sears her skin.

Water cascades down and extinguishes the fire.

Hope WEEPS as she holds a large overturned bowl high above Madison, who is in shock and awe as she gazes at the burns on her arm.

Grace firmly grips Madison's loose hand and restrains it against the bedpost. Madison SCREAMS.

GRACE (CONT'D) Help me!

Madison fights to break free.

HOPE Grace, you're bleeding. We should treat that -- .

GRACE Doesn't matter right now! We have to finish this!

Hope is bewildered.

GRACE (CONT'D) Grab her arm!

Instinctively, Faith grabs Madison's arm, and Grace releases her. Madison GAGS as Grace shoves the scarf into her mouth.

Hope quickly reaches for the scarf.

HOPE

Oh God!

A glimmer of hope flickers across Madison's face, until Hope readjusts the scarf and leaves it in place.

HOPE (CONT'D) She was gagging!

Madison GROWLS as Grace tightly knots the scarf. Hope backs away from the bed.

HOPE (CONT'D) I can't. I just can't.

Grace struggles with Madison, as Faith pleads with her eyes for Hope to stay.

## GRACE

Hope!

Hope drops her head and helps Faith move Madison's arm against the post. Madison belts out an ANIMALISTIC GROWL, as they struggle to hold her down.

Grace loops the ripped bed sheet around Madison's wrist, and secures it with a tight knot.

Frazzled, Faith releases Madison and takes a step back. Hope quickly embraces Faith.

Grace opens the Bible.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Madison's MUFFLED SCREAMS echo out from the hallway.

The front door slowly creaks open, and Erik creeps in.

GRACE (O.S.) (muffled) Let us pray. Almighty Lord. Who grants them the authority --

Erik's eyes lock onto the hallway, as he stealthily maneuvers into the kitchen.

GRACE (O.S.) (CONT'D) (muffled) -- to say, depart, you devils! And by whose might, Satan was made to fall from Heaven like lightning.

Erik emerges with a LARGE KNIFE and creeps to the hallway.

GRACE (O.S.) (CONT'D) (muffled) I humbly call on your holy name, in fear and trembling, asking that you grant me, your unworthy servant, pardon for all my sins, steadfast faith, and the power --

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Madison's MUFFLED PLEAS rings out from the room, as Erik silently approaches her partially open bedroom door.

GRACE (0.S.) -- supported by your mighty arm to confront with confidence, --

The door obscures Erik's view of the bed, but he can see Hope and discern the fear etched on her face.

GRACE (O.S.) (CONT'D) -- and resolution, this demon.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Grace makes the sign of the cross over herself and then repeats the action over Madison.

GRACE, FAITH, AND HOPE

Amen.

Grace reads from the Bible, as she removes the stole and places it on Madison, who struggles fruitlessly to remove it.

GRACE

See the cross of the Lord; begone, you hostile powers! Lord, I appeal to your holy name, humbly begging that you graciously grant me help against this and every unclean spirit, now tormenting this creature of yours.

Grace retrieves a small sage stick, ignites it, and extinguishes the flame. She waves it over Madison.

GRACE (CONT'D) I cast you out, unclean spirit, --

Grace continues to wave the sage back and forth, as ash falls onto Madison.

GRACE (CONT'D) -- in the name of our Lord. Begone you demon, and stay far from this creature of God.

Grace flicks the sage back and forth, and a cascade of ash descends upon Madison, from her feet to her forehead.

GRACE (CONT'D) For it is He who commands you. He who flung you headlong from the heights of Heaven, into the depths of Hell.

Grace flicks the sage.

A piece of the sage's red-hot tip inadvertently falls off the stick, and onto Madison's forehead, where it SIZZLES on her skin. She WAILS in agony.

Hope and Faith's embrace grows tighter.

GRACE (CONT'D) Hearken, therefore, and tremble in fear, Leviathan, you enemy of the faith, you foe of the human race, author of pain and sorrow.

Despite Madison's resistance, her weakened state is evident.

Grace places the sage down on a candle. She makes the sign of the cross in the air before she repeats the gesture directly on Madison's burnt forehead. Madison WAILS OUT in agony.

GRACE (CONT'D) Begone, then!

Grace signs the cross in the air.

GRACE, FAITH, AND HOPE

Amen.

GRACE It's time. Go get it.

HOPE You don't need to -- .

GRACE Shut up... Faith, go to your room and get it!

Snot bubbles from her nostril, and tears cascade down from her eyes, as Madison trembles in fear.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Madison's MUFFLED PLEAS continue to resonate from the bedroom, as Erik retreats into the living room.

Faith emerges from Madison's bedroom and unsteadily makes her way down the corridor, towards her bedroom.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S ROOM - NIGHT

HOPE Is this necessary?

GRACE We need to know!

Hope's gaze remains fixed on Grace.

HOPE Don't do this. GRACE We must find out if the Demon has left her.

Hope lifts the bandage from her arm, and exposes the bruised gashes inflicted by the snake.

HOPE There's no demon in me!

GRACE Debatable.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Erik cautiously peeks around the corner.

Faith faces Madison's door, her attention focused on something that she cradles in her arms.

HISSSSSS

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S ROOM - NIGHT

A horrified expression overtakes Hope's face, and Madison's eyes widen in terror.

Faith stands by the bedside and releases the diamond-patterned SNAKE onto Madison's legs.

Madison remains motionless, her eyes fixed on the snake as it slowly slithers up her torso and inches closer to her head.

GRACE God, Creator, and defender of the human race, look down in pity on this your servant, now in the toils of the unclean spirit.

Hope tears up and tries to approach the bed, but Grace restrains her.

GRACE (CONT'D) Repel, O Lord, the Devil's power. Let him break asunder his snares and traps, put the unholy tempter to flight.

Madison doesn't blink as the snake slithers past her stomach.

GRACE (CONT'D) Depart, then, transgressor. Depart, seducer, full of lies and cunning, persecutor of the innocent. The snake reaches Madison's chest.

GRACE (CONT'D) Give place, abominable creature, give way, you -- !

The snake flicks its tongue and HISSES.

Madison SCREECHES as her eyes grow even wider.

Hope stomps on Grace's foot just as the snake recoils, its jaws wide open, ready to strike.

Grace WAILS OUT, as Hope leaps onto the mattress and seizes the snake's tail, just moments before it reaches Madison's nose. She hurls the snake to the ground. It quickly slithers away and seeks cover.

Madison SCREAMS in fear, as tears stream down her face.

INT. FARMHOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Madison's MUFFLED PLEAS echo out from the bedroom.

Erik cautiously peeks through Madison's slightly open bedroom door, as Faith confronts Grace.

FAITH It tried to bite her!

Hope steps next to Faith.

HOPE The snake bit me!

GRACE That was a sign from God. It is time to cleanse her of her sins.

Faith retrieves the snake and walks toward the bedroom door.

Erik silently withdraws from sight, just moments before Faith heads toward the bedroom door.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Madison's MUFFLED PLEAS echo from the hallway, as Erik swiftly ducks behind the couch and lies to the ground.

Grace firmly grips Hope's arm, as she yanks her into the room and then hurls her forward.

Hope stumbles, and almost falls onto the couch, but she regains her balance.

Erik strains to listen in as Grace and Hope INDISTINCTLY WHISPER to each other.

Hope walks towards the front door.

HOPE I'm not doing it.

#### GRACE

Stay!

Hope spins around, and stands tall.

HOPE

I'm not a dog, and this... whatever this has turned into, is over! If you hurt her one more time, I swear to God, I'll... I'll... -- !

Grace takes a step towards Hope.

GRACE You'll what?

Hope is consumed by her anger, and before she realizes it, her hand swiftly connects with Grace's cheek in a sharp SLAP. Grace holds her cheek in shock. Hope turns to leave but finds herself face-to-face with Faith.

> FAITH I haven't asked much of you, but I need you now.

Hope gazes at Grace, then turns to Faith.

HOPE I'll stay, for you.

Hope looks towards the hallway.

HOPE (CONT'D) And for her.

And IOI her.

Hope turns her attention to Faith.

HOPE (CONT'D) Are you sure this will work?

Grace SCOFFS and storms off to the kitchen.

Faith retrieves the bottle of Holy Water from her pocket and stares at it.

INT. FARMHOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Madison's MUFFLED PLEAS linger in the air.

Grace gathers various containers onto the countertop.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Madison's MUFFLED PLEAS echo out from within the room.

Various containers are stacked up around the sink.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) Blessed are you, Lord, --

The cold water handle is turned, and water flows down into the sink.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- all-powerful God, the living water of salvation, --

Hope fills a cup with water, and hands it to Faith.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- blessed and transformed us.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

With a cup of water in her hand, Faith exits the bathroom. Madison intensely scrutinizes Faith, as she approaches Grace and passes her the cup.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- Grant that when we are sprinkled with this water --

Grace forces Madison's mouth open.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- or make use of it --

Madison GAGS and struggles to evade the water as it pours down her throat.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Hope passes a cup to Faith.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- we will be refreshed --

Faith exits while Hope begins to fill a bowl.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT
Water pours out from a large, plastic container.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- inwardly by the power --

Madison struggles to breathe as water pours into her mouth.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

A large mug is filled with water.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- of the Holy Spirit --

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT
Faith hands Grace a large bowl of water.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- and continue --

Madison attempts to evade the water, yet it inevitably engulfs her. She inhales it, then coughs it out.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- to walk in the new life --

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BATHROOM - NIGHT
A bowl is filled with water.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- that we --

A cup is filled with water.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- received --

A pitcher is filled with water.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE (V.O.) -- at Baptism.

INT. FARMHOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Faith WEEPS as she hands Grace a pitcher of water.

Water splashes repeatedly onto Madison's face. She desperately tries to avoid it, as her eyes slightly roll back and she GASPS for air.

FAITH, GRACE, HOPE We ask this in -- .

Erik bursts into the room with such ferocity that the door BANGS into the wall, then swings back and SLAMS shut. His feet slap at the water as he plows through Hope.

Hope stumbles, before she crashes headfirst into the wall. Her body goes limp and she collapses to the floor.

Madison's eyes light up, and she SCREAMS through the gag, as Faith turns towards Erik, but it's too late. Erik shoves Faith to the ground.

Grace charges at Erik. He swings the KNIFE at her, but she evades it. She tries to grab the knife, only to be backhanded. She flies back and crashes to the ground.

Erik's gaze shifts from Grace to Faith, then to Madison.

Madison's overwhelmed by shock, fear, and confusion.

ERIK What's goin' on here!?

Faith maintains her gaze on Erik as she rises to her feet.

FAITH I implore you, Lord, to hear my pleas. Embrace the strength of my salvation and shield --

Grace positions herself, ready to strike Erik.

Erik extends the knife toward Grace, his eyes fixed on Faith.

ERIK	FAITH (CONT'D)
Move another inch, I swear I'll drain your blood.	my head in battle. Do not grant the desires of the
	wicked. Do not further His
	wicked scheme.

Grace cowers back down to the ground.

Erik takes a step closer. ERIK (CONT'D) What in the hell are ya'll doin' in here?! Let her go or I'll -- ! FAITH (CONT'D) As for the head of those who surround me, let the evil of their lips cover them.

Madison SOBS uncontrollably as she thrashes in the bed.

Erik takes one step closer to Faith.

ERIK (CONT'D)FAITH (CONT'D)Nuff with the preachin'. Last<br/>warnin'. I'll -- I'll -- !Let burning coals fall upon<br/>them. His mischief shall<br/>return upon his own head, and<br/>his violent dealing shall<br/>come down upon his own --Hope blinks her eyes open, then squints in pain.Erik menacingly brandishes the knife at Faith.ERIK (CONT'D)Shut the hell up!-- pate. Break thou the body

nut the hell up! -- pate. Break thou the body of the iniquitous and evil man. Seek out his wickedness till thou find none.

Erik's eyes are locked with Faith's.

Faith remains unfazed.

Erik's eyes tremble. A creepy smirk twists across his lips

Faith shows no fear as she stands her ground.

Rage fills Erik's eyes as he charges at Faith.

Faith closes her eyes and prays silently.

As Erik swings the knife at Faith, a loud SNAP echoes out, and his ankles give way! He SCREAMS in agony, yet keeps the knife raised and remains fixated on Faith, as his legs buckle underneath him and he drops to his knees.

Determined, Erik tightens his grip on the knife with one hand, as he uses the other to pull himself closer to Faith.

Another SNAP reverberates as his forearms twist unnaturally backward. Fueled by rage and consumed by his focus on Faith, he manages to hoist himself up onto his knees.

With an ANIMALISTIC SCREAM, Erik swings his body and propels the hand that grips the knife towards Faith. But as he reaches the midpoint of his motion, his waist reverses in a complete 180-degree rotation, which causes his spine to SNAP.

Erik is left twisted and contorted, his eyes locked on Madison. A tear rolls down his cheek.

ERIK (CONT'D) I love ya, Maddis -- .

Erik's mangled body collapses to the floor.

SILENCE

#### MADISON DEEP-BREATHES REPEATEDLY

Hope rises from the floor and stumbles over to Faith, who is in a state of shock as she stares blankly toward the bed.

Grace slowly gets to her feet, as she and Hope turn their attention towards Faith's fixation.

Faith, Grace, and Hope stand in stunned silence, their eyes locked on the bed. The air, along with their breath, turns icy and seems to fog over.

CRACK

The noise causes all three women to flinch. They snap back to reality, but it's not Erik they stare at in horror.

Madison's torso hovers two feet above the bed, and her back and limbs contort in an inverted and unnatural manner.

Beneath her, the mattress begins to smolder, emit smoke, and eventually catches fire.

A few INSECTS BUZZ around, as MUFFLED SCREAMS resonate from below, as if tortured souls reside in the basement.

Madison SCREECHES as a DEMON pushes her skin out, as if trapped inside of her, then runs the length of her body. It writhes and moans before it disappears back into her!

Madison's body CRACKS as it returns to its normal state and then slams back down to the mattress!

Hope SCREAMS and almost trips over herself as she retreats in panic, but after a few more steps, she tumbles to the ground.

Faith's hand covers her mouth as she silently screams.

Grace tightly clutches the Bible and stands her ground.

Madison's face contorts into a malevolent expression. She expels black liquid, a vile mixture of food and bile, all over Faith. It clings to her and emits steam.

Madison GROANS, the room's ACOUSTICS ECHO, like a massive cathedral, as she levitates a few inches above the mattress.

The SOUNDS OF HELL ring out as the room TREMBLES.

Plywood SLAPS against the windows, while the bed frame repeatedly lifts and BANGS onto the floor.

The number of insects multiplies rapidly.

Hope SCREAMS IN TERROR as Madison GROWLS like a beast.

In a surreal moment, all sound abruptly ceases. The insects that once filled the room disperse and vanish. Madison drops to the mattress. Motionless and eerily calm, lies stiff as a plank. A profound stillness blankets the space.

## SILENCE

Faith, Grace, and Hope slowly approach Madison.

Madison blinks her eyes open and gazes at Faith. Confusion and fear fill her eyes.

MADISON Wha, what? What's going...?

Madison tries to move, but the restraints hold her tightly in place. She tugs at the them as she winces in pain.

MADISON (CONT'D) Wha, wha, why am I tied up?

Madison's eyes search for answers until they fall upon Faith.

Faith drops to Madison's side and embraces her. Madison's breath quickens, her chest rises and falls rapidly. Faith reluctantly releases Madison and steps back.

Suddenly, Madison's body convulses with violent spasms, her movements erratic and uncontrollable.

FAITH No! Maddy, please, no, no -- !

The crucifix falls with a SWOOSH and sticks into the floor like a knife before it VIBRATES like a tuning fork.

An UNEARTHLY YELL reverberates from an unknown source, as an unseen force hurls Grace into Madison's lap.

The bedposts snap like twigs as Madison's arms shoot forward. She grips Grace's throat and pulls her close.

Grace is eye-to-eye with Madison, whose skin is a ghastly green hue, and face twisted in a demonic sneer.

MADISON (speaks in Latin) Te invitavit me.

SUBTITLE: You invited me.

MADISON (CONT'D) (in Turkish) Nunc rogas me discedere!?

SUBTITLE: Now you ask me to leave!?

SUBTITLE: YOU FIRST!

Hundreds of INSECTS BUZZ as they swarm above the bed. The room RATLLES and RANDOM GHOSTLY MOANS fill the air.

A loud BANG reverberates as if something enormous attempts to break through the roof.

Faith sprints toward the bed, then desperately attempts to free Grace from Madison's grip. Grace GASPS for air as she fights for her life. Madison takes a deep WHIFF of Grace, as she begins to fade.

## FAITH

# Madison, no!

Faith continues her struggle to free Grace. Hope rushes to help but abruptly stops. She SCREAMS in horror as Faith is forcibly dragged by an unseen force off the bed, across the floor, and into the bathroom. The bathroom door SLAMS shut.

Hope is frozen in fear as she watches Madison choke Grace.

Grace GASPS for air, as blood vessels burst in her eyes before they roll back into her head.

The bathroom door is rammed down the floor, as Faith darts out and races towards the bed.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Hope!!!

Hope snaps out of her stupor and rushes to Grace's side.

Faith grabs Madison's hands and desperately attempts to pry them off Grace's neck.

Grace's body goes limp and slumps over. Madison's hands release their grip on her throat.

Hope pulls Grace up into her arms, but Grace hangs limply, too heavy for Hope to bear and they are both dragged down to the floor.

Madison lies completely still, her chest the only sign of life as it rises and falls with each labored breath.

Faith slumps onto the bed, and WAILS into Madison's waist.

Madison yanks Faith's hair up until her eyes lock with Madison's, which are completely blacked out and emotionless.

Hope struggles to free herself from under Grace's body.

Faith's head arches back, as she positions herself on top of Madison. Madison pulls her hair further and bends her neck to a precarious angle. Faith CHOKES and struggles to breathe.

FAITH (CONT'D) (chokes out) Ho.. pe... he... lp! B, b, bring... the... Bible!

Hope rolls Grace's limp body off herself and sits up.

FAITH (CONT'D) (chokes out) The... BIBLE. Hope!

Faith reaches behind her head, grabs Madison's hand, and with a calculated twist of the wrist, she pulls on it. Madison HOWLS and releases her hold, but Faith tenaciously clings to Madison's hand and refuses to let go.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Hope!!!

Deep in contemplation, Hope stares at Grace.

FAITH (CONT'D)

The Bible!

Dazed, Hope's gaze shifts a few feet away, to the Bible that rests on the floor. She shakes off her trance, rises to her feet, and dashes towards it.

Suddenly, the drawers from the dresser launch out and fly directly at Hope.

Hope narrowly dodges the first one, but the second strikes her leg. She stumbles, and the third drawer smashes into her head. She collapses onto the floor.

TINNITUS RING

Hope's eyes are glazed over, and blood trickles from a gash in her temple, as she scans the area and attempts to regain her bearings.

> FAITH (O.C.) (CONT'D) (quiet; drawn out) Hooooopppppe.

Hope's outstretched hand rests just inches from the Bible.

STOP TINNITUS RING

#### FAITH (CONT'D)

Hope!

As Hope draws near to Faith, she attempts to hand her the Bible. But, just as Hope extends her arm, Madison easily flings Faith across the room.

Faith collides with the wall and crashes onto the floor.

HOPE

Faith!

Hope hurries to Faith's side.

Madison's eyes are wide open and they don't blink! Dark veins surface all over her body, and her muscles tense. Her head remains motionless while her body convulses. Gray foam bubbles out from her nose and mouth.

Faith wakes up and shakes off the daze. Her attention is immediately drawn to the Bible that is tightly held in Hope's hand. She springs up and takes the Bible, then opens it to the marked pages, and reads, as she walks towards the bed.

FAITH

I command you, unclean spirit, whoever you are, along with all your minions now attacking this servant of God, that you tell me, by some sign, your name!

Madison twitches, as she quickly sits up in the bed. Grey ooze drips down from her nose, mouth, and chin.

HOPE (O.C.)

Faith!!!

Faith looks at Hope.

Hope's gaze is fixed on the floor to her right, as she rushes to the left, toward Faith.

Faith glances over to see what has caught Hope's attention.

The pile of pens tremble on the floor, as six of them hover in unison above the others and point directly at Faith!

Hope reaches Faith's side.

SWOOSH STAB STAB STAB STAB STAB STAB

Hope winces, spasms, and collapses into Faith's arms. Faith desperately tries to keep her on her feet.

## FAITH Hope! No! Hope!

Faith WEEPS as she gently lowers Hope to the floor. Blood gushes forth from the wounds where the six pens have punctured Hope's back.

Madison spits grey ooze everywhere, as she speaks.

MADISON (echoed growl) Mammon, Asmodeus, Lucifer, Beelzebub, Satan, Belphegor!

## SILENCE

Faith looks at Hope's motionless body, now surrounded by a pool of blood. Her gaze shifts to Erik's mangled corpse, then to Grace, who lies slumped and motionless on the floor. A tear rolls down her cheeks as she scowls.

LONG DEEP FIENDISH LAUGH

Faith looks up at Madison, who remains completely still as she stares back. Faith tightly clutches the Bible and approaches the bed.

> FAITH Lord, heed my prayer.

Madison twitches.

FAITH (CONT'D) Lord God almighty, bless this home.

Madison convulses, as The SOUNDS OF HELL grow louder and the INSECT BUZZ becomes omnipresent.

FAITH (CONT'D) Grant salvation from our foes and from the hand of all that hate us.

Madison levitates in place as the bed buckles and CRASHES to the ground. Faith flinches and takes a step back.

Faith gathers her strength and cautiously walks forward.

FAITH (CONT'D) Enable us to be rescued from the clutches of our foes to worship --

Madison GROWLS menacingly, but undeterred, Faith continues her approach the bed.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- without fear, in holiness and observance of the Law, in His presence, all our days.

Faith retrieves the small bottle of Holy Water from her pocket and splashes Madison with it.

FAITH (CONT'D) And you, my little one, will be --

Madison releases a MONSTROUS SHRIEK. She violently thrashes her arms while her legs jerk back and forth.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- hailed 'Prophet of the Most High', --

The SOUNDS OF HELL intensify and blend with a DEEP HUM. The entire room TREMBLES, as if under assault from all sides.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- for the Lord's precursor you will be, to prepare His ways, --

SCREAMS and MOANS reverberate from below.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- and He will impart to His people knowledge of salvation through --

Undeterred, Faith continues, towards the bed.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- forgiveness of their sins.

Madison's restraints are unleashed, and with an intense glare focused on Faith, she becomes motionless, stiff as a board, and levitates into the air until she stands upright.

THREE LOUD KNOCKS ON THE FRONT DOOR

The air, along with Faith's breath, turns icy and fogs over.

Madison drops to her knees. Her actions grow more frenzied as she claws, SLAPS, and beats herself.

FAITH (CONT'D) You're not going to take my baby!

The mattress top singes and smolders, as Faith sweats profusely and advances toward the bed.

FAITH (CONT'D) Thanks be to the merciful heart of our God! His dawning light will shine upon those who sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, and guide our feet into the path of peace.

With a sudden surge of force, the broken desk surges upward and smashes against the ceiling, then SLAMS to the floor.

FAITH (CONT'D) Glory be to the Father. The Lord be with you. Grant that we --

INSECTS BUZZ as they swarm the room.

Broken fragments of the desk and dresser hurtle toward Faith. Some strike her body, while others WHIZZ past and SLAM against the wall.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- who now know you by faith, --

Glass shards, torn posters, and magazines swirl in a tornadolike frenzy and slash at Faith's skin, yet remain steadfast.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- may finally behold you in --

The lamp skims around the floor, its cord sporadically whips at Faith's legs.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- your heavenly majesty. Unless --

The pens in Hope's neck shake and RATTLE.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- one keeps this faith whole and untarnished --

The crucifix in the floor vibrates and grows red hot.

FAITH (CONT'D) -- without doubt... they will perish forever.

Faith remains undeterred as the bathroom light flickers, then abruptly bursts, and a shower of sparks rains down on her.

Madison HUFFS as she claws and scratches at herself.

THREE LOUD KNOCKS ON THE FRONT DOOR

The overhead light blinks.

Faith never wavers her gaze from Madison, as she holds the Bible with one hand and crawls onto the mattress. Smoke rises from Faith's hand as she places it on the mattress, but she pushes forward undeterred.

## FAITH (CONT'D) God, please hear me.

One by one, the heads of the stuffed animals pop off.

With a fierce glare locked on Faith, Madison repositions herself into a predatory squat.

The mattress directly around Madison erupts in flames.

With conviction, Faith locks her gaze onto Madison.

FAITH (CONT'D) Whoever, then, wills to be saved, must assent to this doctrine.

As the plywood repeatedly pulls back, beams of light illuminate the bed, before it THWACKS against the house.

Faith rises to her knees, her eyes locked on Madison, who is engulfed in a cloud of smoke and fire, and poised to attack.

FAITH (CONT'D) And those who have done good shall enter into everlasting life, but those who have done evil, into everlasting fire.

Faith rises to her feet and stands tall on the mattress. Madison's orifices drip grey ooze as she stares up at Faith. The overhead light bursts, and sparks rain down over Faith.

> FAITH (CONT'D) Almighty God, I beg you to keep the evil spirit from further molesting this servant of yours. Banish him far away, never to return!

Madison maintains eye contact with Faith as she suddenly shoots up, and hovers in mid-air.

THE FRONT DOOR IS RAMMED OPEN

Every object in the room levitates into the air.

An EVIL ROAR emanates from Madison, the intensity physically affects Faith.

The room blurs as a violent vibration overtakes everything within it.

The plywood tears away from the house. Madison is thrown back until her body crashes into the wall before it crumples onto the mattress. The violent vibration ceases as the light pours into the room.

In an instant, all levitating objects plummet to the ground. Faith buckles into a fetal position next to Madison, as the insects vanish.

ACOUSTICS RETURN TO NORMAL

SILENCE

Everything is still.

Confusion fills Madison's eyes as she looks up at Faith.

MADISON OMG I hurt.

Madison reaches for her forehead, but the movement causes her to wince and clutch her arms.

Faith startles awake.

MADISON (CONT'D) What happened!?

Tears well up in Madison's eyes.

FAITH

Madison!

Faith embraces Madison. Despite the pain, Madison allows herself to be held.

MADISON What... I...?

# FAITH

Oh, Maddy!

Madison pulls away from Faith.

MADISON

Ouch.

## FAITH

Sorry, I...

Faith is overcome with emotion.

FAITH All that matters is, you're back.

Faith pulls away from Madison and assures her with a smile, as she makes the sign the cross over Madison's confused face. Faith reaches into her pocket.

#### MADISON

Back from...?

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

SHERIFF JASIK (O.S.) Police! We're comin' in!

SHERIFF JASIK, no-nonsense cop, kicks the bedroom door open and enters with his PISTOL aimed at Faith!

DEPUTY DOUGLAS, teddy bear of a man, and DEPUTY JANKOWSKI, way too fit for her body size, enter the room and point their PISTOLS at Faith.

Faith embraces Madison and sprinkles Holy Water on her back.

SHERIFF JASIK (CONT'D) Police! Put your hands where I can see them.

DEPUTY JANKOWSKI Drop it and release the girl! Now!

Faith drops her bottle of Holy Water onto the mattress, and it lands with its label face up.

Sheriff Jasik looks at the bottle with confusion.

DEPUTY DOUGLAS I count three victims on the floor!

Deputy Jankowski rushes to Grace's side, as MEDIC #1 and MEDIC #2 step into the doorway.

Deputy Douglas kneels next to Hope, then signals for Medic #1 and Medic #2 to join him.

SHERIFF JASIK Ya'll just keep still now.

Faith holds Madison tightly.

FAITH You're okay. We're okay. Deputy Jankowski shakes her head as she stands up.

## DEPUTY JANKOSKI

She's gone.

Faith valiantly struggles to hold back a surge of emotions, as Madison buries her head into her side.

# SHERIFF JASIK Detain these two.

Deputy Jankowski attempts to remove Madison from Faith's side. Faith resists, and Madison CRIES OUT.

#### MADISON

Mom!

Deputy Douglas reaches for Madison, but she puts up a fight.

Sheriff Jasik COCKS HIS PISTOL.

INT. FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The room is in disarray, ransacked for clues.

DETECTIVE WOODS (early-50s), barrel-chested and battle hardened, stands in the center of the chaos.

Deputy Douglas watches over Faith, who sits handcuffed on the couch, poised like she is ready to fight. Madison sits beside Faith, as Medic #1 finishes a bandage on her bruised wrist.

## DETECTIVE WOODS

This ruckus could make a preacher cuss. Now... from what I've seen we got us, uh, one deceased female with a knife, who is --

DEPUTY DOUGLAS DETECTIVE WOODS (CONT'D) Actually, Sir... -- twisted up like --

DEPUTY DOUGLAS (CONT'D) DETECTIVE WOODS (CONT'D) Actually, Sir... -- a pretzel, and --

DEPUTY DOUGLAS (CONT'D) DETECTIVE WOODS (CONT'D) Sir... I say, do you mind?

> DEPUTY DOUGLAS (CONT'D) The deceased, with the knife, it's a male... The teen obviously identifies as a -- .

DETECTIVE WOODS Did I ask for a lesson in political correctness!? (MORE)

#### DETECTIVE WOODS (CONT'D)

You don't know what that person identifies with, other than the dead. Now, do you mind?

Detective Woods turns his attention back to Faith and Madison, while Deputy Douglas shakes his head and returns to his notes.

> DETECTIVE WOODS (CONT'D) I have a deceased <u>male</u>, God only knows what happened to *him*, along with one female victim... Female?

# DEPUTY DOUGLAS

Yup.

#### DETECTIVE WOODS

One female victim, asphyxiated, another, who was stabbed in the back, multiple times, with pens. They were found in this house, in a room where you were discovered, and the place is an absolute shambles! Now, I might be willing to show some leniency if you tell me what really happened here.

FAITH

I already told you everyth -- .

DETECTIVE WOODS You're lyin' like a no-legged dog. You got a lil' girl here to look afta, you may wanna -- .

MADISON I'm not a little girl.

Faith shoots Madison a concerned look.

DETECTIVE WOODS Coulda fooled me. Now hush, *little* girl, grown folk are talkin'.

Detective Woods invades Faith's personal space.

DETECTIVE WOODS (CONT'D) You can save yourselves a lotta aggravation, and me a lotta work, by just tellin' me, in God's name, exactly what the Hell went on here.

Her respiratory mask lightly fogged, Hope lies motionless on top of a gurney as Medic #1 and Medic #2 wheel it through.

Hope!

MADISON

Faith calms Madison.

FAITH Hell is exactly what went on here. (to Madison) And we only have God to thank that we're alive... (to Detective Woods) The easiest way to say it is... Satan stopped by for a visit, and he wasn't welcome.

Detective Woods backs off of Faith.

DETECTIVE WOODS You're tellin' me, some murderous person, up and stormed through here, like the Devil himself?

FAITH What I am saying is, the actual Devil stormed through here!

DETECTIVE WOODS My goodness... you're crazy.

MADISON SHE'S NOT CRAZY!

Detective Woods scowls at Faith and shakes his head.

DEPUTY DOUGLAS What's our next move, sir?

DETECTIVE WOODS This story doesn't amount to a hill of beans... Screw it. Take 'em both to the station and we'll proceed from there.

Deputy Jankowski grabs Faith and pulls her away from Madison.

Madison reaches for Faith, but she's held back by Deputy Douglas. Faith struggles to break free as Madison CRIES OUT.

> DETECTIVE WOODS (CONT'D) Keep 'em apart. The young girl in your car, the mother in mine. Don't need 'em collaborating stories.

Faith and Madison's attention is drawn to a MORTICIAN, as they wheel out a body bag, which holds a lifeless form, on a stretcher. The sudden shock of this sight creates a momentary distraction and enables them to be forcibly separated. MADISON

Mom!

Madison elbows Deputy Douglas, then rushes to Faith's side and holds onto her tightly.

MADISON (CONT'D) You can't separate us!

FAITH I've already fought for my daughter once, tonight.

DEPUTY JANKOWSKI (O.C.) Sir! Sir, hold up!

POLICE OFFICER #1 runs up to Detective Woods and places a cell phone, the screen on Madison's social media page, in front of him.

POLICE OFFICER #1 Sir. I think you're gonna wanna see this. Knew I recognized the girl.

Police Officer #1 presses play on the cell phone's screen.

INT. FARM HOUSE - MADISON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (PHONE SCREEN)

A PLAY BUTTON hovers over a still image of Madison, who drools grey ooze, as she kneels on the mattress and claws herself, while she stares directly at Faith.

The PLAY BUTTON vanishes, and a timeline appears at the bottom of the screen as the video starts.

SUPER: a relentless stream of chat fills the screen, and brims with mostly rude comments.

The SOUNDS OF HELL ring out, as the INSECTS BUZZ. The walls are BANGED on, as if under assault from all sides. SCREAMS and MOANS reverberate, as PLYWOOD BANGS AGAINST THE HOUSE!

The room trembles, and the air, along with Faith's breath, turns icy and fogs over.

Madison drops to her knees, fixated on Faith, her actions grow more frenzied as she SLAPS and beats herself.

The mattress top singes and smolders, as Faith continues towards the bed.

FAITH You're not going to take my baby!

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. FARMHOUSE - DAY

The sun shines in the clear sky as multiple police and emergency vehicles leave the scene. One police car remains and is parked next to Faith's car.

Detective Woods stands by the front door and looks inside at Faith and Madison, who peer out.

DETECTIVE WOODS If... there is a God... why did he let the Devil enter your house?

FAITH This is the Devil's world, and evil can do as it pleases, but even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for God is with me.

Faith shuts the front door.

FADE OUT:

THE END